

REVIEWS OF BOOKS

The French Foundations, 1680-1693 (Illinois Historical Collections, vol. 23, French Series, vol. 1). Edited with introduction and notes by THEODORE CALVIN PEASE and RAYMOND C. WERNER. (Springfield, Illinois State Historical Library, 1934. xiv, 426 p. \$2.50.)

The French occupation of North America has been so little studied, in any thorough-going fashion, for the writing of state histories that a scholarly selection like this is bound to be heartily welcomed. At the start, however, the reader must be cautioned against expecting to find here *all* the French documents that tell the story of the Illinois country from 1680 to 1693. The editors explain in the preface that they are not attempting to offer documents that may be easily found in print. It follows of necessity that the present volume does not tell a complete story. The reviewer, in fact, wonders whether more would not have been gained by printing every available item on the Illinois country, other than books, even at the risk of being thought overindustrious. Margry's work, in which La Salle's documents are chiefly printed, is in French, and so beyond the reach of many Americans; *Documents Relating to the Colonial History of the State of New York*, which gives the correspondence of governors, intendants, and others with the court, is available only in English. As often as not a translation is unsatisfactory to the genuine scholar. There was room, therefore, for an unabridged work with French text and English translation on the same page, just as in this volume.

The French text seems to have been copied with the utmost care — a task not always easy to accomplish. Canadian notaries often clung tenaciously to old forms of writing long after the court hand had become as legible for moderns as present-day script. Besides this obstacle the copyist has to face the "hen tracks" of such men as Antoine Adhémar. Much of the present volume is drawn from this notary's *greffe* in Montreal.

The translation is adequate and the annotation usually correct, if a bit meager in spots. A good deal of reliance has been placed by the editor on the census schedules of New France for 1666, 1667,

and 1681. Alas that the age records therein contained should prove to be so unreliable! Readers should be cautioned that little faith can be put in them.

To one statement in the preface the present reviewer must take exception. The editors say on page iii, "Similarly the career of La Salle has been so intimately studied and documented that only on certain phases, — namely those respecting his commercial and financial arrangements, — is there opportunity for any documentary material to shed fresh light." It is true that the books, both of sources and of secondary data, on La Salle's career are legion. Nevertheless, there is needed a biography, or at least a volume of documents relating to his life, which will tell about the origin of his interest in American exploration; the personnel of the court clique that pushed him on to exploration often against his will; the curious sequel of his association with Father Hennepin and its influence on La Salle's later career; the great role in the exploration of North America played by that very Abbé Bernou whom these editors dismiss so easily in less than five lines on page 135; the interlocking designs, formed by certain "shadows" at the French court, for La Salle, Jolliet, Radisson, Groseilliers, Peñalosa, Van Heemskerck, and other explorers; and, most important, the great church kingdom that La Salle was to create for the Recollets in their struggle to dethrone the Jesuits. Surely no one can understand La Salle — nor Illinois history — till the documents relating to these facts have been published.

Since the church kingdom mentioned was to have included what is now Minnesota, it is to be especially regretted, from the standpoint of readers of this magazine, that the pertinent documents were not included. Minnesotans, however, will find much to interest them in the volume as it stands. On page 17 one finds a reference of 1682 to the Nadoussioux or Sioux; and the index refers one to several mentions of Nicolas Perrot and Daniel Greysolon, sieur du Lhut. Perhaps of most interest to Minnesotans are a reference and a footnote on page 265 relating to the later history of one of Father Hennepin's companions on the upper Mississippi, Michel Accault. There one learns that Accault became a permanent settler in Illinois, marrying the daughter of a Kaskaskia chief, who, according to Father Gravier, was responsible for a decided reform in his character. The baptismal record of his infant son is the first entry in the church records

for the Parish of the Immaculate Conception. Of general interest for American and Canadian history are the engagements of voyageurs, to which considerable space is given. Slowly but surely the role of these humble men, who were a mighty force in settling North America, is being comprehended.

Ninety-four pages of the book go to the so-called De Gannes memoir concerning the Illinois country. The editors point out that the author was probably the Sieur Deliette, a nephew of Henri de Tonti. This memoir gives an unusually early and intimate picture of the Illinois country and its aboriginal inhabitants and would, alone, justify the publication of the volume.

GRACE LEE NUTE

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ST. PAUL

Documents of American History (Crofts American History Series).

Edited by HENRY STEELE COMMAGER, New York University.
(New York, F. S. Crofts and Company, 1934. xxi, 450, 454 p.
\$4.00.)

The knowledge of America's past held by that somewhat mythological figure, the man on the street, consists, we suspect, of whatever scraps have survived in his memory from grade-school days plus such folklore as may have come his way. To expect that he has read even the most important and accessible documents in American history is to give him credit for an interest and a curiosity of which he is wholly innocent. Even when the man on the street becomes the man on the platform and addresses his fellow countrymen on, let us say, the Constitution of the United States, there is often little evidence that he is familiar with the document itself, let alone other important supporting documentary material. A single volume collection of sources, then, which would be wide enough in its selection and interest to be a valuable addition to the library of the general reader as well as a useful text for college classes does supply a real need. Such a collection is the volume under review.

In the selection of material for such a book one starts, of course, with certain fundamental documents which must be included — charters and constitutions, petitions and declarations, laws and treaties. But this is only a start; from there on, the editor has little to guide

him. From the vast array of source material he must select, in every case, the document which will the most completely throw light on the incident. Difficult as such a selection is in the field of political history, it is infinitely more difficult and perplexing in the wider ranges of economic and social history. Dr. Commager has performed this task with notable success. Sound judgment, skill in selection, and a wide familiarity with the sources have combined to give us the best single volume of its kind that this reviewer has come upon.

It is, of course, impossible in the space allotted to a review to give an adequate idea of the wide range of selection. The reader, however, may be interested in such diverse items as "Dorothea Dix's Memorial" of 1843 on the condition of jails and almshouses; the "Seneca Falls Declaration" of 1848 on woman's rights; the "Trial of Mrs. Douglas" in 1853 for teaching colored children to read; the recommendation of Mayor Fernando Wood that New York City secede in 1861; Pope Leo XIII's "Encyclical Letter" on socialism, 1878; the Altgeld-Cleveland correspondence; "Powell's Report on the Arid Region" of the United States; "U. S. v. Debs"; the W. C. T. U. pledge; the "Social Creed" of the Methodist Episcopal church; and the "Cotton Textile Code." If that old standby, Webster's reply to Hayne on the nature of the federal Constitution is absent, a worthy substitute for such oratory may be found in Vanzetti's reply to Judge Thayer on the nature of Massachusetts' justice.

Out of the 486 separate documents included in the volume, some eighty are excerpts from judicial opinions. Since no less an authority than the present chief justice of the Supreme Court of the United States has stated that the Constitution is what the judges say it is, this number does not seem excessive. Read in seriatim, they give the general reader a sound notion of the legal foundation of modern industrial America.

Although nearly five hundred documents have been included in a volume of about nine hundred pages, necessitating the use of small type and a double-column page, the text is surprisingly easy to read. Heading each document is a brief historical note, to give the proper setting, and a short bibliography. The index is not adequate.

ERNEST S. OSGOOD

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Minnesota, the Land of Sky-tinted Waters: A History of the State and Its People. By THEODORE CHRISTIANSON, LL.D., L.H.D. In five volumes. (Chicago and New York, The American Historical Society, Inc., 1935. 530, 539, 654, 652, 672 p. Illustrations.)

In the first two of the five bulky volumes here under review, a native Minnesotan who has played an important role for two decades in the political life of the North Star State reviews its story and brings it down to date. He gives his first volume the subtitle *From Wilderness to Commonwealth* and his second that of *Minnesota Becomes of Age*. The three remaining volumes consist of *Minnesota Biography* and are made up of miscellaneous sketches prepared by a special staff of writers. The publishers are the American Historical Society, whose name should not be confused with that of the American Historical Association.

Like the Minnesota State Planning Board, Mr. Christianson finds his starting point in the view that Minnesota has "come of age." He believes, in fact, that its "adult status" has "induced a desire among its people to know more fully the conditions and events which caused it to become the kind of state it is." He disclaims any purpose of producing a better history than Dr. Folwell's four-volume survey of Minnesota's past, which he describes as a "monumental achievement by a man who not only wrote history but made it." The author seeks to tell the story of Minnesota for the general reader, because he feels that "interest in the annals of the commonwealth has extended beyond the circle of those who have made history a study rather than a pastime." The work is not a research history, but the author has made himself, on the whole, surprisingly familiar with the findings of research in his field and has summed up and condensed his material in a vigorous style, enlivening his summary with crisp and forceful characterizations.

The twenty-two chapters that make up the first volume carry the story from the beginnings to the seventies of the nineteenth century, when "Embattled Farmers" were staging the first fight in the "agrarian crusade." Mr. Christianson opens with a brief summary of the "Physical Foundations" of the state and then tells quickly about "Aboriginal Minnesotans" — the Sioux, Chippewa, and other Indian tribes that occupied portions of what is now Minnesota. The way is

thus paved for a series of chapters on exploration during the French, British, and American periods. Subjects of controversy, such as the Kensington rune stone and the western journeys of Radisson and Groseilliers, are treated with due caution. The author advocates an open mind in reference to the rune stone, points out that the characters inscribed upon it are "believed by some scholars to be genuine runes," but concludes that the stone, even if genuine, "is only a memorial of an isolated and desperate adventure." In dealing with the explorations of Radisson and Groseilliers, he cites scholars who believe that the two Frenchmen discovered the upper Mississippi and also those who, like Folwell and Alvord, have not read this meaning into Radisson's narrative. The author does not lose himself in the intricacies of the Radisson controversy, however. He takes pains to point out something of the larger significance of the work of the two Frenchmen. Unlike Dr. Folwell, who treats the Baron de Lahontan with the "contempt of silence," Mr. Christianson frankly discusses the baron's claims to historical fame, evidences knowledge of Professor Stephen Leacock's study of Lahontan, and, with some reservations, seems to accept the baron's basic claims.

Among other French explorers whose exploits in the upper Northwest are described are Jolliet and Marquette, La Salle, Hennepin, Du Lhut, Perrot, Le Sueur, La Perrière, and La Vérendrye. Additions to geographical knowledge of the Minnesota country made by such traders and explorers as Carver, Alexander Henry and his nephew of the same name, and David Thompson are discussed in a chapter entitled "The Years of British Domination." Although the author does not seem to have used Miss Kellogg's important study of "The Mission of Jonathan Carver," he does not ignore the part played by Robert Rogers in the explorations of Carver and he brings into the story the plan of a journey to the Pacific, though he does not tell of the project for the discovery of the Northwest Passage. Peter Pond is mentioned and the author concludes from one of his maps that he was on the Minnesota River in 1774. That Pond traded in the Minnesota country both in 1773-74 and 1774-75 and that his journal of his experiences in this region has been preserved and published seems not to have come to the author's attention, however.

The bulk of a chapter entitled "Minnesota Becomes American" is given over to an account of Lieutenant Pike's visit to the upper Mississippi. Long, Cass, Schoolcraft, Beltrami, Albert Lea, Nicol-

let, and other explorers of the early nineteenth century figure in a chapter which takes the story to 1837 and the land cessions of that year. Here are included such varied and important subjects as the founding of Fort Snelling, Taliaferro's work as Indian agent, the establishment of the Red River settlement, the beginnings of steamboating on the Mississippi, the activities of the American Fur Company, and the work of missionaries among the natives. The sketch of the missionaries is interesting, especially for its account of the Pond brothers, but in general it does not reflect the new knowledge that research in this field has brought to light.

How "that recurring impulse which runs through American history in the nineteenth century, to pull up stakes and start life over again in a new country" brought settlers into the region opened up by the Sioux and Chippewa cessions of 1837 is explained in a chapter on settlement. The author selects Sibley, Steele, and Brown as figures typifying successive frontier stages, and he finds Brown the most forward-looking of the three, for he glimpsed a Minnesota future "in which agriculture, lumbering, the fur trade and manufacturing should constitute a balanced economic ensemble." The establishment of the territory and the administrations of Ramsey and Gorman are the subjects of three chapters. These are followed by essays on the admission of Minnesota to the Union and on Sibley and Ramsey as governors of the new state. Chapters 15 to 18 deal with Minnesota in the Civil and Sioux war era, but the author has an eye not only for the military exploits of its citizens but also for "Minnesota's Expansion during the War," a subject frequently neglected. The background of American history is well integrated with Minnesota in the story of the "Years of Reconstruction," which includes an account of Senator Daniel S. Norton's part in President Johnson's acquittal. Of this insurgent senator, who was read out of the Republican party by his Minnesota colleagues because of his refusal to side with the anti-Johnson forces, Mr. Christianson says, "No man of greater courage or a finer sense of honor ever represented Minnesota in the halls of Congress." Chapters on "Laying Rails," on the Austin administration, and on "A Decade of Calamities" from 1873 to 1883 conclude the first volume.

Perhaps the most notable and original contribution of Mr. Christianson's work is to be found in his relatively large allotment of space and emphasis to the recent history of Minnesota. Volume 2—more

than five hundred pages — comprises a narrative of Minnesota happenings since the seventies, opening with an interesting account of Oliver H. Kelley and the Grange and of Ignatius Donnelly and the Antimonopolists. The author sees the seventies as a period of transition. Free land was nearing an end. "Already there was less freedom on the frontier. New standards had been established. New ways had been adopted. Agriculture had been mechanized. . . . The farm was no longer a self-contained economic unit, but a part of an economic system — a system that often seemed unfriendly." Against this background he devotes much attention to the farmer and to labor, especially as factors in Minnesota politics; and his narrative pictures state conservatism, challenged again and again, in one movement after another, adapting itself to new programs and facing new problems. Much of the volume necessarily deals with economic history, but the author has adopted a political frame for his narrative and his chronology of events is, for the most part, organized by gubernatorial administrations. Some fifteen or sixteen of the twenty-two chapters thus deal with the administrations of successive governors. Exceptions to this procedure are chapters on "Embattled Farmers," "Patching the Constitution," "The Empire Builder Begins His Work," "The Greenbackers," "The Raid upon Minnesota's Resources," and "Saving the World for Democracy." It is interesting to observe, incidentally, that he closes his chapter on the World War with this generalization: "The disillusionment following the Great War brought to more and more people the conviction that not by suppression of opinions nor by the victory of arms, but by enlightenment and education, can the world be made safe for democracy."

There are, of course, many advantages in a political organization and approach in a work of this kind, but the reviewer would like to suggest, not as a criticism of Mr. Christianson but rather as a comment on the problem of dealing with our recent history, the possibility of a kind of organization that would give a more integrated picture of the processes of social and economic change. Is it not, after all, in these realms particularly that the state has undergone its fundamental transition from a pioneer to a modern commonwealth, that it has, in a word, "come of age"? One wonders, for example, about such broad topics as the development of agriculture, the emergence of new social points of view, the advance of public health and medicine, the history of the church, the adjustment of education to a chang-

ing world, the story of labor organization, the development of the Twin Cities as a metropolitan center, the saga of Minnesota racial elements and contributions, the story of Minnesota music and art, and the creation of a Minnesota literature. Mr. Christianson is undoubtedly aware of the significance of such subjects, and his book in fact contains a considerable amount of information about some of them. His political approach inevitably forces him to deal with them in a somewhat fragmentary and disconnected fashion, however, supplementary to politics and administration.

Many readers will naturally be most interested in the chapters in which Mr. Christianson, who himself served as governor of Minnesota for three terms, discusses the recent political history of the state. He closes his volume with two chapters on "The Christianson Administration" and "The Farmer-Labor Regime," respectively. His account of his own administration is firsthand historical source material for the future historian, as well as a unit in the present narrative. It is evident that the author has attempted to write these chapters in the spirit of the historian and not as a political partisan. It is equally evident, however, that he is human and, being so, has given his narrative at various points an emphasis that unmistakably reflects his own political stand. It would be highly interesting to have, alongside this account of the Farmer-Labor regime, a survey of that regime written by the present governor. Perhaps that will come later, for of the last four governors of Minnesota, two have already produced histories of the state.

THEODORE C. BLEGEN

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ST. PAUL

John Lind of Minnesota. By GEORGE M. STEPHENSON. (Minneapolis, The University of Minnesota Press, 1935. 398 p. Illustrations. \$4.00.)

In writing this biography Mr. Stephenson not only had access to the Lind Papers but actually used Governor Lind's own study as a workshop. He did not content himself, however, with studying the letters, reports, and other records left by Lind. He searched for material in other manuscript collections, notably the Bryan Papers in the Library of Congress and the Nelson and Donnelly papers at the Minnesota Historical Society, pored over files of nearly thirty news-

papers, including one in German and five in the Scandinavian languages, paged through the *Congressional Record* and various other government publications, consulted a host of special books and articles, and interviewed many friends and acquaintances of Lind. The result is a piece of honest research, but this alone does not account for the sense of reality that the reader gains from every page of the book. The biographer of John Lind needed to know Sweden and Swedish-American life, as well as the Minnesota and general American backgrounds of his subject, and here Mr. Stephenson has an unrivaled knowledge. To these advantages he adds a clear and vigorous style, marked by economy of words and simplicity, and a courage in setting forth the truth that matches the courage of "honest John" himself. All this has conspired to give us in *John Lind of Minnesota* the best biography yet written of a Minnesotan and one of a select few of notable American biographies of recent times.

A number of reviewers have considered this book important chiefly for its contribution to the history of Mexican relations under Wilson, and the blurb on the jacket of the book describes it, perhaps correctly, as "the *Now It Can Be Told* of the secret diplomacy of President Wilson in Mexico." The five chapters in which Mr. Stephenson traces the history of the Mexican mission and reveals the inside story of Lind's role as diplomat and peacemaker are unquestionably a significant contribution to American diplomatic history. The reviewer contends, however, that they do not constitute the chief contribution of the volume. That contribution, in his opinion, is made in the full-length portrait that the author draws of Lind as a man of courage, intelligence, and liberalism, and in the accompanying analysis of the general backgrounds of the man.

The story starts with "The Emigrant Boy," but a reminiscent letter of Lind serves as a prologue. In this letter, written in his sixty-seventh year, Lind sums up in a line his faith in democracy: "The people have used me pretty well on the whole. They trusted me and I trusted them." That was written long after the opening scene, however, which was a farm in Småland, Sweden, in the fifties. Mr. Stephenson knows Småland and he gives his readers a memorable picture of the setting of John Lind's fourteen years of Swedish boyhood, shows how the "America fever" infected the province, and tells of the migration of the Lind family to America, followed by years in which its members "drained the cup of poverty and hardship." The

author points out that Lind never identified himself with the Swedish-Americans as a group and did not seek to advance his political fortunes by angling for the so-called "Swedish vote." He did, however, take a deep interest in his Swedish heritage, read Swedish newspapers as long as he lived, retained his use of the language, and in his old age interested himself in the early history of Scandinavia to such an extent that when Archbishop Söderblom visited America in 1923 he and Lind could chat together about "our common old friend, Adam of Bremen." Meanwhile, for the boy John, back in 1868, the adventure of migration was quickly followed by tragedy. His left hand was mutilated by a shotgun explosion and amputated, probably unnecessarily, by a local physician. His dream of becoming a civil engineer was given up. Instead of "making blue prints and carrying a rod and chain," he was, as the author points out, "to advance the progress of civilization in the schoolhouse, before the bar, in the halls of Congress, and in the office of the chief executive of the state."

This remarkable career, all antedating the Mexican episode, Mr. Stephenson traces in a series of twelve chapters, only the general scope of which can be suggested in this review. Two years after his immigration John Lind, having in the meantime secured a little schooling, was a district schoolteacher. A couple of years later he was studying law in the office of a New Ulm lawyer and by 1875 he was a student at the University of Minnesota. In 1876 he returned to the New Ulm law office and was admitted to the bar. He emerged as a frontier lawyer and politician with a capacity for leadership. From 1877 to 1879 he was superintendent of schools for Brown County; in 1881 he became receiver and agent in the federal land office at Tracy; and five years later, at the age of thirty-two, he "was accorded the distinction of being the first Swedish-born American to be elected to Congress."

Lind made his political debut as a Republican, but his platform was "decidedly Populistic in spirit" and brought him the sharp criticism of the leading Republican organ of the state, which expressed the hope that he would "learn rapidly." Mr. Stephenson dryly remarks, however, that he did not "learn rapidly," that in fact "the older he grew the more discordant became his voice in the political chorus." John Lind was "in reality a political orphan all his life"—a natural independent. By his forthrightness he won the confidence of his constituency and was not only elected but twice

re-elected. Mr. Stephenson analyzes the question of nationality in the first election and concludes that it "did not affect the outcome . . . one way or the other." He then devotes three chapters to a careful study of Lind's career in Congress, a career in which he aligned himself in general with the dominant party, though he was not wholly satisfied with certain important majority measures to which he gave his vote. His voluntary retirement was a prelude, however, to his transition from Republicanism to fusion and to his becoming a spokesman for western reform and agrarian forces. He had, it is true, "little faith in the effectiveness of the Alliance as a political party," but the repeal of the Silver Purchase Act, the influence of Bryan, and the stand of the Republicans in 1896 made him first a Silver Republican and then a recipient of a fusion nomination for governor from the Democrats and Populists. In the subsequent election he lost to Clough by a narrow margin.

One of the most interesting contributions in the author's study of politics in the nineties is his analysis of the Scandinavian factor in state elections. He rejects the explanation that the Swedes in 1896 flocked to the standard of Lind and suggests that in reality "what prevented Bryan and Lind from carrying Minnesota was the conservative German, Swedish, and Norwegian voters." The author tells of Lind as "Soldier and Politician" in the interlude between 1896 and 1898 and then turns to "The Second Battle," which made Lind governor and which is "a landmark in the political history of Minnesota." Though Eustis attributed his defeat by Lind to the defection of the Swedish Republican vote, the author, while conceding that Lind's nationality and popularity had their influence, contends that he was not elected "on the nationality issue." A compact chapter tells of Lind's governorship. His administration was vigorous and courageous, but did not leave impressive marks upon legislation owing to the fact that he was opposed by a hostile majority in the legislature. The author then deals with "The Third Battle," that of 1900, in which Lind, now an out-and-out Democrat, was supported by Democrats, Populists, and Silver Republicans. He takes the view that Lind "was undoubtedly the choice of the people," but lost the election by the invalidation of from fifteen to twenty thousand votes that were obviously intended for him.

The remainder of the book deals chiefly with the remarkable mission that made Lind President Wilson's emissary to Mexico in a

critical period in the relations between the United States and its southern neighbor. Lind remains "honest John" throughout all the complexities of that mission, the story of which is presented with a wealth of detail drawn from hitherto unused correspondence. No summary of that story can be presented here, but the reviewer desires to call attention to Mr. Stephenson's account of "Politics, 1902-1913" and to the two concluding chapters on "War and Politics" and "Citizen of Minnesota." The period from 1902 to 1913 is clearly an interlude, though it is marked by another term in Congress, where Lind voted against Cannon as speaker and attacked Republican tariff policy, by his nomination by the Democrats for governor in 1910, which he promptly rejected, and by his enthusiastic support of Wilson for president in 1912. In a courageous chapter Mr. Stephenson tells of Lind's independent and sane course during the era of war hysteria and then follows Lind into the twenties, when he turned his back upon party labels and voted for men of liberal views, whether Republican, Democratic, or independent. The author in the final chapter presents a pleasing picture of Lind as a citizen—his service as a member and president of the university board of regents, his interest in humanitarian reform, his love of nature, his concern about Minnesota's wild life, his work for conservation, his interest in crippled children, his studies of geology and history, and many other matters. As one follows this absorbing biography to the end, one perceives that Lind was a man of genuine intellectual stature, of friendly human qualities, and of dry humor, as well as of power, courage, and independence.

A bibliography and a good index add to the usefulness of the volume. The University of Minnesota Press maintains its reputation for issuing beautifully printed and bound books.

T. C. B.

A Critical History of the Red River Insurrection, After Official Documents and Non-Catholic Sources. By A. G. MORICE, O.M.I., doctor of laws and laureate of the French Academy. (Winnipeg, the author, 1935. 375 p. Illustrations. \$2.75.)

In Canadian history, there is perhaps no more controversial subject than the Red River insurrection. French-Canadian historians of the

Roman Catholic faith have written extensively and encomiastically of the insurrection and the motives of its leaders; while Protestant Anglo-Canadians, for the most part, have denounced both the uprising and its leaders in the severest of terms. All have written under the guise of history. None have told the whole truth. When people write with definitely established prejudices and preconceptions, it is impossible to present history aright.

The *Critical History of the Red River Insurrection* is not Father Morice's first attempt to write the history of the Red River difficulties. Those who are familiar particularly with his four-volume *Histoire de l'Eglise Catholique dans l'Ouest Canadien* and with his two-volume *History of the Catholic Church in Western Canada* are aware of the several chapters in each of these works that treat specifically of the insurrection. As a matter of fact, there are presented in these studies accounts that are much alike and nearly as extensive as the account in the *Critical History*; and in both cases the author's interpretation of the causes and events is practically the same.

In the *Critical History*, the causes, events, and aftermath of the Red River disturbances are recorded in twelve lengthy and loosely constructed chapters. Although the author repeatedly avows historical objectivity, almost to a degree that becomes painful to the reader, it cannot be said that he is always fair and reasonable. That Father Morice did not approach his task free from prejudice and preconception is quite apparent. His work in a large measure constitutes a vehement denunciation of writings that are repugnant to his way of thinking. And it is interesting to observe that only the statements of the "English" writers are execrated; the author definitely asserts that they are "inspired by hatred, sourness and prejudice" (p. 72).

This study can in no wise be regarded as definitive. In the opinion of the reviewer, the author has not oriented his subject sufficiently, nor has he treated it in all its necessary ramifications. International relationships are almost entirely ignored. American interests and intrigues probably had little to do with the immediate inception or the outcome of the troubles, but their influences were actively present and ought not to be totally disregarded. Rapid American expansion into the Northwest in the decades of the fifties and sixties had a far greater significance as a remote cause of the Red River insurrection than historians have recognized.

For the specialist in western Canadian history, the *Critical History* is of interest and importance, but for the general reader it is unfortunately more detrimental than valuable.

JOHN PERRY PRITCHETT

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The Correction Line. By REV. A. C. GARRIOCH. (Winnipeg, Stovel Company Limited, 1933. 414, vi p. Illustrations. \$4.00.)

Here is a book that will have considerable appeal for the layman interested in the history of the Red River. Unpretentious, and in instances almost naive, it tells an impressive story of life on the prairie. Beginning with the earliest explorations and fur-trade activities in the Northwest, the story in broad outline is brought down to the present time. The author discusses the tragedies of early Red River settlement with much understanding and objectivity. There is no vituperation, although it is quite obvious that the writer is very sympathetic with Lord Selkirk and his purposes.

Perhaps the best portions of the book are those that treat of evangelization. It may be that Mr. Garrioch has given, in proportion, too much attention to religious activities, but on the other hand this is a phase of the country's history that has never been adequately treated.

The chapters entitled "Riel Rebellion (1868-1870)," "The Provisional Government (1870)," and "Rebellions, First and Second (1870-1885)" are undoubtedly the weakest in the volume. The causes, events, and results of the Riel insurrections are sketched in a tedious and commonplace manner. In fact the author indicates rather forcibly that he has prejudices and preconceptions.

Although Mr. Garrioch has regarded the Red River as a region, he has been much too circumscribed in the writing of its history. American connections and interests are largely ignored throughout. Red River trade activities with St. Paul and other international relationships, so important in the middle of the nineteenth century, are completely disregarded. If the author were a bit more inclusive, undoubtedly his work would have a greater appeal.

J. P. P.

"An Engineer's Recollections." By JOHN F. STEVENS. (In the *Engineering News-Record*, New York, March 21-September 5, 1935.)

In this series of autobiographical sketches are narrated some incidents from the remarkable career of John F. Stevens, a prominent civil engineer whose achievements are closely linked with the railroad history of the Northwest. The account begins with his employment in 1882 as an engineer for a contractor who was building a section of the Canadian Pacific Railroad west of Winnipeg. He remained with that road until its completion to the Pacific in 1886, acquiring in those four years an experience in surveying mountain grades that was to stand him in good stead in later years. During the rest of the eighties he worked at several railroad building jobs, including the construction of a ninety-mile branch line of the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Railroad in northern Iowa and a particularly difficult line through the wilderness along the southern shore of Lake Superior from Sault Ste. Marie to Duluth.

During these same years James J. Hill was rapidly extending the lines of the Great Northern Railroad westward toward the Pacific. Progress on the road was stopped when the Rocky Mountains were reached, however, for the engineers were unable to find a pass through the barrier. It was at this critical stage that John F. Stevens was employed, and in December, 1889, he began a painstaking exploration of the Rockies. On December 11, alone in the bitter cold of a mountain winter, he found the famous Marias Pass, which gave the Great Northern the low grade over the mountains that Hill demanded. This discovery was an important happening in Stevens' career, for it opened to him the opportunity to continue his work with the Great Northern. In 1895 he became chief engineer for the road and took a leading part in the expansion of the Hill lines in the Pacific Northwest. To commemorate the discovery of this route through the mountains, a statue of Stevens was unveiled at the summit of Marias Pass in the summer of 1925.

Stevens' experience ranged from that of an engineering assistant for the growing city of Minneapolis to that of a brilliant railroad engineer and explorer. His merit was recognized by two expressions of public confidence—an appointment as chief engineer for the Isthmian Canal Commission in 1905 and his election as chairman of a

commission of railway engineers that was sent to Russia in 1917 to rehabilitate the Russian railway system. The postal authorities of the Canal Zone have announced that, in acknowledgment of his services in the construction of the Panama Canal, a new five-cent postage stamp bearing his portrait will be issued. Stevens has lately made his home in Baltimore, where in the comparative serenity of his later years he has had the opportunity to record these memories of a colorful life.

ARTHUR J. LARSEN

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ST. PAUL

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES

During the six months from April to October the society received some twenty-three thousand visitors in its museum, served two hundred and twenty users of manuscripts, had more than two thousand patrons in its main library, and assisted about twelve hundred persons who wished to consult newspaper files. Users of manuscripts, books, and museum articles in this half year have included three fellows of the Rockefeller Foundation; a teacher from the University of Oslo, who came to use the Veblen Papers; a student from the University of Toronto, who was making a study of Canadian-American relations and was particularly interested in the Taylor Papers; a scholar from Columbia University, who is making a study of wage-earners in the westward movement; a member of the Manitoba Historical Society, who was investigating American sources for the history of the Canadian Northwest; a novelist from New York; and a professor from the University of South Dakota, who is studying early drama in the mining camps and who wished to use the society's extensive file of Black Hills newspapers.

The society is making an effort to build up a file of the old *Nor'-wester*, a newspaper published at Fort Garry from December, 1859, to November, 1869. Only two original issues of this rare paper, which contains a wealth of material on the history of the Red River Valley of Minnesota as well as of Canada, are now owned by the society. These are dated June 14, 1860, and January 24, 1863. The society also has the prospectus of the paper, dated August 22, 1859, and photostats of a number of issues published in 1862 and 1863. Is there a complete file of the paper in any Canadian collection? Original issues or photostats of numbers not already in the society's possession will be welcome additions to its file. Another Canadian newspaper file that the society is attempting to complete is that of the *New Nation*, which began publication at Winnipeg on January 7, 1870. Anyone having copies of the *Nor'-wester* or the *New Nation* or knowing of their whereabouts is asked to communicate with the society.

A manuscript committee composed of members of the society and its executive council has been named, with Mr. Ira C. Oehler of St. Paul as chairman. Other members of the committee, which will give special attention to the problem of extending the society's collection of personal papers, are the president of the society, Mr. William W. Cutler of St. Paul, Mr. Edward C. Gale and Dr. George M. Stephenson of Minneapolis, and Mrs. Edward B. Young of St. Paul. Miss Nute is secretary of the committee.

An effort to enlarge the society's collection of church records and to bring together systematic information about materials preserved in local church archives is being made through a questionnaire, which has been sent to all Congregational pastors in Minnesota. Plans are under way for sending similar questionnaires to ministers of other denominations.

Eighteen additions to the active membership of the society were made during the three months ending September 30, 1935. They include one life member, Colonel Charles A. Lindbergh of Englewood, New Jersey; and the following annual members: Elmer A. Benson of St. Paul; Charles J. Berry of Minneapolis; Edward Caldwell of New York City; Mrs. Elmer J. Carlson of Cass Lake; Ellworth T. Carlstedt of Bloomfield, Iowa; Otis B. DeLaurier of Long Prairie; Jesse S. Douglas of San Francisco; Percy J. Feany of St. Paul; C. E. Folin of Brooten; Dr. Arthur B. Hunt of Rochester; Roscoe C. Kirkpatrick of Nashwauk; Harold C. Knox of Winnipeg; Karen Larsen of Northfield; Nadine Munns of Minneapolis; Charles Phinney of Herman; Roland S. Vaile of Minneapolis; and Mrs. Hurley Warming of St. Paul.

The society lost ten active members by death during the three months ending September 30: John S. Comstock of Detroit Lakes, July 11; Horace B. Ayres of Kimberly, July 14; Herbert H. Goodrich of Minneapolis, July 21; Dr. William E. Leonard of Hadley, Massachusetts, August 28; Thomas D. O'Brien of St. Paul, September 3; Albert M. Slocum of Minneapolis, September 11; Rachel C. Mason of St. Paul, September 17; William C. Johnson of Minneapolis, September 18; Jesse A. Gregg of St. Paul, September 21; and Orange S. Miller of Champlin, September 24. William Abbatt of New York City, an honorary member, died on September 7. The

deaths of Henry B. Dike of Orlando, Florida, on August 18, 1934, and of J. Anton Ochs of New Ulm on September 19 of the same year, have not previously been reported in this magazine.

A joint review of the letters of Jane Grey Swisshelm and of the *Guide to the Personal Papers* in the society's manuscript collection, both published recently by the society, appeared some time ago in the *Springfield Republican*. The Massachusetts newspaper praises the Minnesota society for being "interested in the whole life and activity of the state's people—in manners, customs, architecture, religion, social conditions—and not merely in political, military and economic records of past years." The writer of the review characterizes the activities of the society as "zealous, scholarly, and extensive" and asserts that the "society is now showing greater energy and resolution than at any previous period."

A *Memorial of Warren Upham*, by Professor W. H. Emmons, which appears in the *Proceedings* of the Geological Society of America for 1934, has also been issued as a separate (June, 1935). It includes a brief sketch of Dr. Upham, who was secretary of this society from 1895 to 1914 and its archaeologist from that year to 1933, and a bibliography of his writings relating to the subject of geology. Items published between 1877 and 1922 are listed.

In an editorial entitled "History in Song," which appears in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for September 27, Miss Edgar's study of Finnish folk songs, in the September issue of this magazine, is noted. "Those who are concerned with the study of literature and history as embodied in song will welcome any efforts to extend this field of research to include all the racial groups which make up the population of Minnesota," reads the editorial.

Mrs. Berthel's article on "Hunting in Minnesota in the Seventies," which appeared in the September issue of MINNESOTA HISTORY, attracted considerable attention in the press. It was reviewed in a feature article in the *St. Paul Daily News* for September 26, and it was the subject of editorial comment in the *St. Paul Dispatch* for September 2. In the latter paper the "revolutionary change in the methods of transporting the hunters to the scene of their sport" is emphasized.

An interview with Miss Nute, in which she describes some of her experiences while searching for material relating to Radisson and Groseilliers, is reported by Janet Fotheringham in the *St. Paul Daily News* for September 1.

The paper on "Chippewa Falls, a Pre-Railroad Business Center," by Barr Moses, editor of the *Springfield* [Ohio] *Sun*, which was read at the Willmar session of the thirteenth state historical convention held under the auspices of the society on June 15, is published in full in the *Brooten Review* for August 8.

Miss Frances Densmore's article on "The Garrard Family in Frontenac," which appeared in MINNESOTA HISTORY for March, 1933, is reprinted in installments in the *Wabasha County Leader* of Lake City for August 1, 8, and 15. Portions of the article were quoted in a recent decision of the Minnesota Supreme Court in the case of *Schaler vs. Town of Florence*. Judge Julius J. Olson referred to the "interesting history connected with Frontenac, excellently and entertainingly written, in the March, 1933, number of the magazine 'Minnesota History.'"

Talks on "The Lure of Minnesota History" and on "Little Discoveries in a Great Past" were presented by the superintendent before the Marshall County Historical Society at Warren on July 14 and the Business and Professional Women's Club of St. Paul on September 18. Before her return to Minnesota in August Miss Nute presented an address on Radisson before the Rotary Club of Hastings-on-Hudson, New York, on July 9. She gave a talk on early Minnesota events and personages before the St. Martin's Study Club of St. Paul on September 13, and she spoke on her researches abroad at Hamline University on September 30. Mr. Babcock spoke on "Cross and Plough, the Missionary as a Civilizer" at Chippewa-Lac qui Parle State Park on July 9, on "Community Memory" at Carver on July 20, and on "Local History Work in Freeborn County" at Albert Lea on July 30. Miss Jerabek read a paper on "Bohemian Pioneers of McLeod County" at Carver on July 20.

ACCESSIONS

Nineteen items added to the Pond Papers by Miss Agnes Pond of Shakopee include several letters written from Traverse des Sioux by

Robert Hopkins between 1845 and 1848, two letters of Gideon H. Pond written from Connecticut in 1843 and 1844, and one sent from Prairieville by Samuel Pond in 1849.

An interesting and valuable diary kept by Benjamin Densmore in 1856 while engaged in a survey for townsites and projected railroads in Minnesota has been added to the Densmore Papers by the Misses Margaret and Frances Densmore of Red Wing (see *ante*, 15:464). They have presented also some correspondence for the years 1856 and 1857 relating to the building of a sawmill at Red Wing, a field record of a survey made at the same place in 1857, and typewritten extracts from a number of family letters.

To "come West to live is no child's play, and the question of removal to the West should be seriously approached" reads a letter written from Hutchinson in 1857 and published in a contemporary issue of the *New York Tribune*. It has been transcribed for the society, along with numerous other items relating to Minnesota and the Middle West appearing in the *Tribune* between 1848 and 1860, by Miss Ruby Karstad of Staples. Among other subjects touched upon are the Stillwater convention of 1848, Governor Ramsey's journey to the Chippewa country in 1850, pioneer life in Minnesota, and a public land sale in Iowa.

Information about the Excelsior colony, the Maine liquor law, a disastrous flood in the Red River Valley, the railroad excursion of 1854, the population of Minnesota in the fifties, Congregational churches, and Chippewa missions is contained in the transcripts and calendar cards made for the society from files, in the Congregational Library in Boston, of the *Independent* and the *Vermont Chronicle* for the period from 1851 to 1856. A letter written by Stephen R. Riggs in September, 1851, on the treaty of Traverse des Sioux is among the transcripts.

Two letters written from St. Paul by Edward A. Holmes in 1855 and 1857, and received from Mr. Warren Biggs of Williamston, North Carolina, tell of real estate speculations in Minnesota townsites, the writer's plans to erect a sawmill, and his work as a surveyor for Simeon P. Folsom.

Nine letters written by Frederick P. Leavenworth from St. Peter in 1856 and 1857 and one that he received at Van Buren, Arkansas, in 1860 have been added to his papers by Miss Jane S. Davis of Petersburg, Virginia (see *ante*, p. 334). Among the subjects mentioned in the letters are the St. Peter lyceum, the Minnesota constitutional conventions, an Indian payment at Yellow Medicine, Sioux customs, the Spirit Lake massacre, and a townsite of the Dacotah Land Company on the Cottonwood River.

A certificate of inspection of the steamer "Eolian," which ran between St. Paul and "Red Wood" in 1861 and which was owned by William F. Davidson, has been received from Mr. Selby J. Roop of Wilmington, Delaware, through the courtesy of his daughter, Mrs. Elizabeth R. Glenn, also of Wilmington.

The diaries and parish records kept by two Episcopal clergymen in Minnesota, Charles Rollitt and his son, Charles Carter Rollitt, have been added by the latter's estate to the archives of the Minnesota diocese of the Protestant Episcopal church (see *ante*, 14:101). The diaries of the elder Rollitt cover the years 1861 to 1865 and 1871, when he was serving in the province of Quebec and at St. Anthony; and his parish reports were made between 1871 and 1883 in the vicinity of Farmington. The papers of the son include his lecture notes in Dr. William W. Folwell's course in political economy at the University of Minnesota, and a memorandum book and parish records of baptisms, marriages, and deaths kept at Fergus Falls and Red Wing from 1886 to 1905.

Photostatic copies of forty items dating from 1862 and 1863 and relating to the location of troops in Minnesota during the Sioux War and the building of stockades at military posts between St. Cloud and Fort Abercrombie have been made for the society from the originals in the archives of the war department. Four documents in the Indian office that have been copied touch upon charges preferred in 1844 against David Lowry, agent for the Winnebago.

A certificate of discharge from the Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, which was issued to James McDuff on March 29, 1862, is the gift of Miss Emma McDuff of St. Paul.

Two letters written to Mrs. Ann M. Tidd at St. Anthony in January, 1863, during the illness of her husband, Tristram Tidd, a member of the Second Battery of Minnesota Light Artillery during the Civil War, have been presented by Mr. Donald T. Smith of Lockhart, Texas. One of the letters is written by L. F. Russell, surgeon of the battery, and the other was dictated by Tidd to A. C. Gowdy.

A commission issued in 1863 to Charles N. Pinney as second lieutenant in the "Rifle Grays" of Ottawa has been presented by Mr. O. J. Pinney of Le Sueur, through the courtesy of Dean Richard U. Jones of Macalester College.

Three boxes of papers of the Reverend Ole Nilsen, a Norwegian Lutheran pastor in Wisconsin and North Dakota, covering the period from 1882 to 1931, have been presented by his daughter, Miss Frida Nilsen of Grand Forks, North Dakota. The collection includes letters from leaders in the Norwegian Lutheran church in America, including Hans G. Stub, Theodore H. Dahl, Christian Johnson, and N. B. Thvedt; Nilsen's sermons and notebooks; and a list of immigrants from certain sections of Norway.

Two volumes of minutes of meetings of the Minnesota Society of Colonial Dames of America for the period from 1894 to 1920 have been received through the courtesy of Mrs. Charles A. Clark of St. Paul.

A volume of minutes of meetings of the Wright County Medical Society for 1894 and 1903 to 1934 has been presented by Dr. John H. Catlin of Buffalo. The volume includes also the constitution and bylaws of the society, lists of members, notices of meetings and programs, and the constitution and minutes of two meetings held in 1883 and 1884 by the Crow River Valley Medical Society.

Five account books covering the period from 1901 to 1911 of the meat packing firm of Katz and Hertz of South St. Paul have been presented by Mr. Arthur Katz of St. Paul.

A brief biographical sketch of John and George Blackwell, who settled in Meeker County in 1857, has been written and presented by Miss Lucy E. Keller of Grand Marais.

References to the beginnings of Hamline University at Red Wing are contained in a recent letter by Mr. George N. Messick of Duluth to President Charles N. Pace of Hamline University, a copy of which has been made for the society through the latter's courtesy. The author also mentions his father, Nathan S. Messick of the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, who was killed in the battle of Gettysburg.

"Public Opinion on Federal Land Policies in Minnesota, 1837-1862" is the title of a master's thesis by Ben R. Brainerd, a copy of which has been received from the department of history of the University of Minnesota. A term paper on "The Government Farmer and the Minnesota Indians," prepared at the university by Sister Grace McDonald, has been copied through the courtesy of the author.

An article on "Portages and Old Trails" in Jay Cooke State Park, with an illustrative map, is the gift of the author, Mr. John Fritzen of Duluth. Most of the article is devoted to the Grand Portage of the St. Louis River.

Biographical sketches and photographs of Minnesotans who participated in the World War, filling nine filing boxes, have been collected and presented by the American Legion Auxiliary of Minnesota. Histories of the activities of each local unit in 1935 also have been added to the collections of the auxiliary.

A volume containing sixty-four highly colored lithographs by J. O. Lewis, an artist who attended the treaties at Prairie du Chien in 1825, Fond du Lac in 1826, and other points in the Northwest in the years that followed, has been acquired by the society. The prints, which are exceedingly rare, include portraits of many of the chiefs who took part in these treaty negotiations. An interesting view of the treaty ground at Prairie du Chien also is included.

Two quilts and several articles of infants' and children's clothing dating from the late fifties and crayon portraits of Mr. and Mrs. John Teachout, Farmington pioneers, are the gifts of the Misses Annis and Orena Teachout of Farmington. Articles added to the domestic life collection by Mrs. M. A. Bronson of Merrifield, through the courtesy of Mrs. Walter Hyde of Minneapolis, include a teapot and nutmeg and pepper shakers of Britannia ware, several vases and plates, and candlesticks of brass and iron.

A cannon ball from Cavite, a Philippine dagger, and other articles recalling the Spanish-American War are the gifts of Mr. G. N. Mid-dents of St. Paul and San Diego, California. Mr. Theodore Hays of Minneapolis has presented an album of badges used when the Thirteenth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry returned to Minneapolis on October 12, 1899.

A gun barrel of the flintlock type used in the fur trade, found by Mr. Willoughby M. Babcock on an island at the entrance to North Fowl Lake on the Pigeon River-Rainy Lake canoe route, has been added to the museum collection.

A broad ax and a carpenter's plane of the plow type have been presented by Dr. J. C. Ferguson of St. Paul.

More than a hundred articles collected in the Philippine Islands and in India have been presented by General Charles McC. Reeve of Minnetonka Beach as an addition to the collection of similar materials previously given to the society. Included are an antique battle ax of steel inlaid with gold, models in brass of Indian vehicles, carved and inlaid wooden boxes, antique metal seals, and a wicker chair and trunk from Manila. A glass case for display purposes was presented with the collection.

Two photographic copies of a portrait of Joseph Jack Frazer, a well-known mixed-blood hunter and scout, are the gift of Mr. F. M. Kaisersatt of Faribault, who owns the original.

NEWS AND COMMENT

A joint resolution of Congress, approved on August 2, provides for the establishment of a commission of fourteen members to plan and "provide for the observance and celebration of the one hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the adoption of the Ordinance of 1787 and the settlement of the Northwest Territory." Since this region included a substantial portion of the present state of Minnesota, the anniversary celebration will be of special interest in this state.

"The State Historical Society of Wisconsin and the Minnesota Historical Society have been outstanding in gathering historical records, and their collections include a considerable number of farmers' diaries and similar materials," writes Everett E. Edwards in an article on "The Need of Historical Materials for Agricultural Research," which appears in *Agricultural History* for January. Attention is called also to the large collection of material relating to agricultural history that is being assembled by the McCormick Historical Association of Chicago. Many items from this collection relating to the introduction of farm machinery in Minnesota have been copied on filmstrips for the Minnesota Historical Society (see *ante*, 15:464).

"The Rise and Decline of the American Agricultural Interest" is reviewed by D. W. Brogan in the *Economic History Review* for April. Until about 1900, writes Mr. Brogan, "American farming had been soil mining. Land was the cheapest of the factors of production: labour the dearest." The changes that came about and the problems that arose with the "taking up of sub-marginal lands left behind in the great westward sweep" are discussed in some detail. Several references to the development of agriculture in Minnesota and the Northwest are included. Mr. Brogan draws from an issue of the *Boston Journal* in the seventies the following quotation: "Draw a line from the Mississippi River at St. Cloud to Pembina on the Red River close to the boundary line and you have west of that line a region which . . . comes nearer the Garden of Eden than any other portion of the earth."

An editorial in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for July 1, headed "Dust Storms of the Past," contradicts the "prevailing notion that

dust storms are only a modern phenomenon, and a sort of penalty for over-grazing and over-plowing the Western plains." "The Minnesota Historical society at St. Paul," reads the editorial, has "an 1864 diary in its possession kept by Major Ebenezer Rice, one of the officers of the expedition led by General Alfred Sully from Fort Ridgely, Minnesota, to the upper Missouri river region. This first-hand account of the expedition describes the severe dust storms encountered while crossing the Yellowstone River. Wagon trains standing half a mile away were completely invisible and 'clouds of white dust swept over the camp' penetrating clothing, bedding, and baggage. The experience moved the Major to write in his journal, 'Of all the dust and sand this beat everything I ever witnessed.'"

A new edition of Hiram M. Chittenden's *The American Fur Trade of the Far West*, first published in 1902, has been issued with an introduction and notes by Stallo Vinton (New York, Press of the Pioneers, 1935. 2 vols.). In addition to the original text and notes, "editor's notes" appear at the end of nearly every chapter. These are very uneven in quantity and scope. The editor appears to be unacquainted with many of the recent studies in the field of the fur trade. Kenneth Porter's extensive biography of John Jacob Astor, for example, is not noted. Recent interpretations of the Yellowstone expeditions are not mentioned. The great body of the American Fur Company Papers in New York and John Jacob Astor's own papers seem to be unknown to the editor. Several of the Champlain Society's volumes that bear directly on the field covered by the volumes are not mentioned, notably that of the writings of the La Vérendryes. On the other hand, valuable information is often contained in the notes, such as in that on page 214 relative to the publication of Robert Stuart's journals and a discussion of the discovery of South Pass by Stuart's party. In general, however, it must be said that the chief value of the new edition lies not in bringing either text or notes up to date, but in supplying students with the distinguished work by Chittenden, long since out of print. G. L. N.

In a volume on *The Medicine-Man of the American Indian and His Cultural Background* (Springfield, Illinois, 1935), William T. Corlett gives some attention to the practices of medicine men among the Sioux and the Chippewa.

Much information about the Indians of northern Minnesota is to be found in part 30 of a *Survey of Conditions of the Indians in the United States*, which deals with Minnesota and North Dakota (Washington, 1934). It includes "hearings before a subcommittee of the committee on Indian affairs" of the United States Senate, held at the Cass Lake, White Earth, and Red Lake Indian agencies in Minnesota.

Some Sioux place names in the Mississippi Valley, particularly in the vicinity of Red Wing, are recorded and explained by Frances Densmore in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for July 14. They were given to the writer by Makawastewin, or Susan Windgrow, "one of the oldest Sioux women in the region." Her names for such landmarks as Lake Pepin, Maiden Rock, and Barn Bluff are presented, and Sioux legends connected with these places are given. Miss Densmore's article is reprinted in the *Red Wing Daily Republican* for September 12.

Sister M. Inez Hilger, who contributed an account of a medal found near Red Lake to the last issue of MINNESOTA HISTORY, describes the methods used by Indian women of the Red Lake Indian Reservation in making birch-bark receptacles, in *Indians at Work* for September. She tells of the primitive methods used in gathering and preparing bark, of the preparation of basswood fibre for sewing birch bark, of the types of leakable and non-leakable receptacles made, and of their uses.

To mark the fiftieth anniversary of the beginning of Dr. Frederick W. Hodge's career as an anthropologist, which occurs in 1936, a fund to be known as the Frederick Webb Hodge Anniversary Publication Fund is to be established. "Dr. Hodge headed the Bureau of American Ethnology for eight years," reads an announcement issued by the committee in charge of the fund. "His long career has been one of constant support and encouragement to the study of American prehistory. The Fund which is to bear his name offers to his many friends and admirers an opportunity to do him personal honor, at the same time increasing the meager existing facilities for publication of research in the important field of American prehistory." Contributions should be sent to the Hodge Fund, Southwest Museum, Los Angeles, California.

Frontier Folkways by James G. Leyburn (New Haven, 1935) is a study of the "adjustments made by pioneers who, coming from an established society, were forced by the very nature of their undertaking to adjust if they were to survive at all." The author includes chapters on the "Massachusetts Bay Frontier" and on the "French along the Saint Lawrence." He gives some notice to the Middle West in a chapter entitled "Characteristic Phases of Frontier Life in America."

Centennial celebrations of the consecration of Jackson Kemper, first missionary bishop of the Protestant Episcopal church, have occasioned the numerous biographical items about him that are appearing. The entire September issue of the *Historical Magazine of the Protestant Episcopal Church* is devoted to him. Four articles in that issue hold interest for the whole Northwest. "Jackson Kemper, Presbyter," by Howard M. Stuckert, sketches Kemper's early life, mostly in New York and Pennsylvania. "A Turning Point: The General Convention of 1835," by Walter H. Stowe, reviews the history of the Episcopal church in the United States and gives some very convincing reasons for its slight accent on missionary enterprise until the famous convention of 1835. In "Kemper's Missionary Episcopate: 1835-1859," by Edward R. Hardy, Jr., Kemper's work as a missionary bishop in Wisconsin, Minnesota, Iowa, and other frontier territories and states is discussed. Here references are found to Kemper's visit to Fort Snelling in 1843 and to his relations with the new diocese of Minnesota. "Kemper's Diocesan Episcopate: 1854-1870" by Frank E. Wilson touches Minnesota history at several points—the consecration of Bishop Whipple, a trip from Superior to St. Paul in 1860, and other Minnesota visits. Extracts from Kemper's diaries and letters add to the historical value of this issue of the quarterly. Reference is made in a "Kemper Bibliography" (p. 243) to letters published *ante*, 7: 264-273, from the Kemper Papers, owned by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. The *Living Church* for September also is a special centennial number in honor of Bishop Kemper. On its cover it carries an excellent portrait of Kemper as a young man. "Editorials and Comments" and several articles are devoted to an appraisal of Kemper and his work. G. L. N.

In a brief article entitled "John McLoughlin, M.D.," which appears in the *Oregon Historical Quarterly* for June, Mr. T. C. Elliott

presents evidence to show that this well-known fur trader received his medical training at Quebec and was "licensed to Practice in Surgery and Pharmacy" in 1803. Several documents from the Public Archives of Canada relating to McLoughlin's service as "an apprentice & student in Medicine" under Dr. James Fisher are published by Mr. Elliott. Some items relating to Dr. McLoughlin's practice of medicine at Fort William and in the boundary region of northern Minnesota in 1807 and 1808 are quoted from a contemporary journal.

In the July issue of the *Iowa Journal of History and Politics*, the State Historical Society of Iowa gives further attention to the centennial of Albert M. Lea's explorations in Iowa and southern Minnesota, which it had commemorated earlier by reprinting the explorer's *Notes on the Wisconsin Territory* and by publishing in the *Palimpsest* several articles and documents relating to Lea (see *ante*, p. 227). The leading article in the *Journal* is a detailed biography of "Albert Miller Lea" by Ruth A. Gallaher. His visit on July 29, 1835, to the Minnesota lake which now bears his name is recorded in detail. An interesting extract is quoted from a reminiscent article by Lea, in which he tells how his name was given to this lake by Joseph N. Nicollet (p. 212). In the preparation of this valuable narrative, Miss Gallaher drew upon manuscripts, newspapers, and books relating to the career of the explorer in the collections of the Minnesota Historical Society. As appendixes to the article, reports made by Lea on the Des Moines River in 1835 and on the "Iowa-Missouri Boundary" in 1839 are published. A study of "Troops and Military Supplies on Upper Mississippi River Steamboats" by William J. Petersen appears in the same issue of the *Journal*. Troops, government expeditions, and government supplies that reached Fort Snelling and St. Paul by steamboat between the founding of the fort in 1819 and the close of the Civil War are covered in this article.

An article on "The County, District, and State Agricultural Societies of Iowa" by Myrtle Beinhauer, in the *Annals of Iowa* for July, suggests possibilities for a similar study in Minnesota. Early county agricultural societies and the fairs that they arranged are described, and the organization of the state agricultural society in 1853 is noted. Much of the article is devoted to the story of the development of the Iowa state fair. In the same issue of the *Annals*, Douglas

C. McMurtrie reprints sections relating to Iowa from rare newspaper directories published in 1852, 1856, 1861, and 1869.

The first installment of a study of "New Upsala: the First Swedish Settlement in Wisconsin" by Dr. Filip A. Forsbeck appears in the *Wisconsin Magazine of History* for September. It is prefaced by a biographical sketch of Gustaf Unonius, the founder of the settlement, upon whose memoirs, published in Swedish, the study is based. To the same issue of the Wisconsin magazine William F. Raney contributes a review of "Pine Lumbering in Wisconsin," in which considerable attention is given to the development of this industry along streams flowing into the Mississippi—the Wisconsin, the Black, the Chipewewa, and the St. Croix rivers. The career of Frederick Weyerhaeuser, which "began in Illinois, and ended in Minnesota," is outlined by Mr. Raney, who notes that Weyerhaeuser mills are still operating in Minnesota and in the Pacific Northwest.

"Early Methods of Transporting Iron Ore in the Lake Superior Region" are described by John H. Hearding in *Skellings' Mining Review* for July 27. The writer deals both with early railroads and with shipping facilities on Lake Superior. Most of his narrative relates to the shipping of iron ore in Michigan.

A chapter on the "Emigration of Maine Lumbermen" is the concluding section in a volume on the *History of Lumbering in Maine, 1820-1861*, by Richard G. Wood, published by the University of Maine as number 33 in its second series of *Studies* (1935. 267 p.). "Men who had learned the tricks of the trade in Maine went west to practise their skill in untouched forests," writes Mr. Wood. Among the men specifically mentioned are Dorilus Morrison, William D. Washburn, Daniel Stanchfield, and other "Maineites" who helped to develop the Minnesota lumber industry. Minnesota, according to the author, "proved to be a field for Maine exploitation." Since methods originally developed in the forests of Maine were applied later in the Northwest, chapters on "Methods of Lumbering in Maine," and on the drive, the boom, and "Rafting and Scaling" should be of interest to Minnesotans.

A fourth article on the archives of the Hudson's Bay Company, by its archivist, R. H. G. Leveson Gower, appears in the *Beaver* for September. It deals with the "original letters received in London"

by the company, and their arrangement. Among the groups of letters mentioned are those "from Fort Garry, the headquarters of the Red River Department and Colony, from 1841 to 1870." In the same issue of the *Beaver* is a reminiscent account entitled "Memories of Upper Fort Garry" by the late Anna M. Cowan, whose father, Dr. William Cowan, was an employee of the Hudson's Bay Company at the fort. The writer presents a vivid picture of the social life of the families living at Fort Garry between 1835 and 1882. Some mention of Dr. Cowan, who spent the later years of his life in St. Paul, is included in an account by Dr. Ross Mitchell of "The Early Doctors of Manitoba" which has been reprinted in pamphlet form from the *Canadian Medical Association Journal* (21 p.).

An attempt to answer the question "Is there an authentic portrait of Cartier?" is made by Gustave Lanctôt in an article on "Portraits of Jacques Cartier," which appears in the *Canadian Geographical Journal* for March. Several likenesses of the discoverer of Canada are reproduced with the article, and the authenticity of each is considered.

The first volume of *The Encyclopedia of Canada* has been issued under the editorship of W. Stewart Wallace by the University Associates of Canada (Toronto, 1935). Information about many individuals and places of significance for Minnesota as well as Canadian history is to be found in this compilation. An article on "Boundaries" contains a brief statement about the boundary westward from the Lake of the Woods. Under the heading "Archives" are to be found concise statements about the Public Archives of Canada and about the more important provincial archives.

A record of a visit to Three Rivers, Canada, during the city's celebration of its three-hundredth anniversary in 1934, is contributed by Dr. Grace Lee Nute to the *Three Rivers Year Book* for 1935. A canoe race by French-Canadian voyageurs is described in detail by the writer. Other articles of special interest in the *Year Book* are a detailed, illustrated account of the "Tercentenary of Trois-Rivières"; a review of the exploration of La Vérendrye, a native of Three Rivers, and his sons, by Lawrence J. Burpee, which appears under the title "Pathfinders of the Plains"; and a second article on La Vérendrye by John T. Tebbutt.

GENERAL MINNESOTA ITEMS

"The Modern Commonwealth of Minnesota" is the title of a syllabus prepared by Theodore C. Blegen with the assistance of Lewis Beeson, which is being mimeographed by the General College of the University of Minnesota. It will be available shortly after December 1. It offers a topical plan of study for the history of Minnesota since 1865, with outlines, questions, suggestions, and references, supplementing and amplifying Mr. Blegen's *Minnesota History: A Study Outline*, which was issued by the University of Minnesota Press in 1931. Copies of the new syllabus may be obtained for fifty cents each at the Engineers' Book Store on the campus of the University of Minnesota.

"My Town" in the "old lumber territory of Minnesota" is the subject of an article by Meridel Le Sueur in the *New Republic* for September 25. She describes her town on the St. Croix River as one that "has been wrecked by methods of primitive accumulation, laissez-faire individualism, pioneer habits of settlement, gambling in town lots, speculation in railroad stocks, exaggeration of opportunities," and the like. Ignatius Donnelly's town of Nininger, near Hastings, is cited by the writer as the typical boom town of the fifties that failed to develop. "The 1857 census showed flourishing towns that did not exist, nor ever would," she writes. "Land speculation rose to dizzy heights. Town lots were sold on paper. Counties were established with no people in them. Sawmills, breweries went up, oyster saloons, dams were built, bottom lands were flooded, Indian rice fields were destroyed. Newspapers sprang up." The writer points out that Nininger, "advertised with such aplomb boomed, zoomed, fell like a plummet in the panic, and then went bankrupt again when another town, Hastings, outbid it for the railroad."

A small pottery bowl found in an Indian mound near Camden State Park is described in the *Marshall Daily Messenger* for September 24. It was examined by Dr. A. E. Jenks of the University of Minnesota, and his comments are quoted in the *Messenger*. A sketch of the bowl accompanies the article.

The discovery in June, 1935, of a skeleton of what appears to be a prehistoric man in a gravel pit near West Union is reported by the Reverend Henry Retzek in *Science* for July 19. His account of the

find is reprinted and pictures of the skull and of the gravel pit are reproduced in the *Long Prairie Leader* for August 8.

One chapter of Sherwood Anderson's *Puzzled America* (New York, 1935) is entitled "Olsonville" and is devoted to a discussion of the Farmer-Labor party in Minnesota and the Northwest. "The whole movement is partly an outgrowth of the old Non-Partisan League, partly a kind of spontaneous upgrowth out of the soil and of the shops in the towns," writes Mr. Anderson. He pictures Governor Olson as a "Northwest Leader," as the "one man who stands out." Minnesota's governor also is the subject of a chapter entitled "Viking Invader" in *American Messiahs* by the "Unofficial Observer" (New York, 1935).

A speech of Congressman Ernest Lundeen of Minnesota before the House of Representatives on June 24, 1935, is printed under the title "Charles A. Lindbergh — Patriot, Pioneer, Statesman, Lawyer, Writer, Courageous Champion for the People" in the "Appendix" of the *Congressional Record* for July 22. The elder Lindbergh's Minnesota background, his political record, and his influence on the Farmer-Labor party are emphasized in this sketch. After Colonel Lindbergh's Atlantic flight, said Mr. Lundeen, "every book and pamphlet and piece of movable furniture disappeared" from the Lindbergh home at Little Falls, "to the great loss of future generations, especially students who would like to examine the volumes, pamphlets, and writings collected by Lindbergh during his long public service."

Faculty members and students at the Northwest School of Agriculture and Experiment Station at Crookston joined in celebrating the fortieth anniversary of the founding of this branch of the University of Minnesota on July 15. The speakers included two former superintendents of the school, T. A. Hoverstad and C. G. Selvig, and a former state senator, A. D. Stephens. All spoke on phases of the history and development of the school and station. Their addresses are outlined in the *Crookston Daily Times* for July 15.

Mr. George H. Primmer, whose study of "Pioneer Roads Centering at Duluth" appeared in the last issue of this magazine, is the author of a brief sketch entitled "Teaching School in Minnesota — 1835" in the September number of the *Minnesota Journal of Edu-*

cation. The writer describes some of the experiences of Edmund F. Ely as a missionary and teacher at Fond du Lac a century ago, as recorded in the latter's diary. "The entire Fond du Lac settlement," writes Mr. Primmer, "turned out to see his [Ely's] ball and candle demonstration of earth attitude and motions, a performance he designated the first astronomical lecture in the region."

In a *History of Catholic Colleges for Women in the United States of America*, Sister Mary Mariella Bowler points out that in the Middle West, Minnesota "led the other states in providing full collegiate training for Catholic women" (Washington, 1933. 145 p.). Several pages are devoted to historical sketches of colleges at St. Paul, Winona, St. Joseph, and Duluth, and a number of secondary schools are noted. Mention is made of the work of Bishops Cretin and Grace in promoting Catholic education for women in Minnesota.

The history of the radio in the Northwest is reflected in a review of the progress of station KSTP by Jay Edgerton, which appears in the *Minneapolis Journal* for August 11. The early radio work of Mr. Stanley E. Hubbard, general manager of the station, is described. In 1923, when he opened the station known as WAMD, "broadcasting was done through a large horn" and "listeners used ear-phones on their home-made crystal sets."

Two celebrations in July marked the centennial of the founding of the Lac qui Parle mission, which was observed by the Minnesota Historical Society at a session of the state historical convention on June 14 (see *ante*, p. 302). A program sponsored by the Congregational and Presbyterian churches, given at the mission site on July 7, included a reminiscent talk by the Reverend Thomas L. Riggs, the son of one of the Lac qui Parle missionaries, Stephen R. Riggs, and an address on the work of the founder of the mission, Dr. Thomas S. Williamson, by his grandson, the Reverend Jesse P. Williamson. On July 9, the actual centennial date, a program arranged by the Lac qui Parle Centennial Commission created by the 1934 legislature was presented. The speakers included former Congressman Einar Hoidale; Julius A. Schmahl, state treasurer; Elmer Benson, state superintendent of banks; and Willoughby M. Babcock, curator of the museum of the Minnesota Historical Society. The latter read a paper entitled "Cross and Plow: The Missionary as a Civilizer."

To mark the centennial, the *Montevideo News* issued a special "Lac qui Parle Centennial Edition," in which papers presented at the state historical convention by Dr. Charles M. Gates and the Reverend Philip Frazier are published in full. Among other items in this edition are an abstract of a paper entitled "Conserving Minnesota's Past," presented by Theodore C. Blegen, superintendent of the state historical society, at Montevideo on June 14; and a reprint from this magazine, *ante*, p. 192-195, of an article by Mr. Babcock entitled "Hunting History by Automobile."

Eightieth anniversaries were commemorated by the Osseo Catholic Church on July 28, the Pine City Methodist Episcopal Church on August 18, the Houston Lutheran Church on August 25 and 26, the Trinity Norwegian Lutheran Church of Spring Grove from September 6 to 8, the Vasa Lutheran Church on September 8, the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church of St. Paul on September 15, the Oak Grove Presbyterian Church of Bloomington from September 19 to 22, and the First Lutheran Church of Red Wing on September 29; a seventy-sixth anniversary, by St. Joseph's Catholic Church of Medicine Lake on September 29; seventy-fifth anniversaries, by the First Lutheran Church of Taylor's Falls on July 20 and 21, the St. Wendelin Catholic Church of Luxemburg and St. John's Lutheran Church of Shakopee on August 25, the Scotland Presbyterian Church on September 14 and 15, and the St. John the Baptist Catholic Church of Dayton on September 22; a seventy-third anniversary, by the Zion Swedish Lutheran Church of Goodhue on September 1; sixty-fifth anniversaries, by the Trinity Reformed Church of Wabasha on July 28, the East Sveadahl Swedish Lutheran Church on August 4, the Rush Lake Swedish Lutheran Church on September 8, the Cokato Lutheran Church from September 29 to October 6, and the Willmar Presbyterian Church from September 29 to October 7; sixtieth anniversaries, by St. John's Lutheran Church of New Prairie on September 8, Bethany Lutheran Church of Emmet Township on September 15, and the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church of Holmes City on September 21 and 22; fiftieth anniversaries, by St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Chaska on July 7, the Eidskog Lutheran Church on July 7 and 8, Zion Lutheran Church of Detroit Lakes and St. Paul's Lutheran Church of Le Center on July 21, Our Saviour's Lutheran Church of Warren on July 28, St.

Mary's Catholic Church of Ellsworth on August 22, the Swedish Mission Church of Buffalo from September 8 to 15, St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Leaf Lake Township, Zion Evangelical Church of Hanover, and St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Waseca on September 15, the Tromso Lutheran Free Church of Lake Lillian from September 20 to 22, the Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church of Walter on September 22, and the St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church of Rost Township on September 29; a forty-fifth anniversary, by the Knox Presbyterian Church of St. Paul on September 15; fortieth anniversaries, by St. John's Lutheran Church of Thief River Falls on July 28 and the First Methodist Church of Eveleth from September 6 to 8; twenty-fifth anniversaries, by the Bethsaida Lutheran Church of Clearbrook on August 3 and 4, the Marble Methodist Church on September 1, the First Congregational Church of Waubun on September 8, and St. Mark's Episcopal Church of Minneapolis on September 29.

Miss Marjorie Edgar, who contributed a brief article on "Finnish Folk Songs in Minnesota" to the September issue of MINNESOTA HISTORY, is the author of a note on "Finnish Charms from Minnesota" which appears in the *Journal of American Folk-Lore* for October-December, 1934. "It was while collecting folksongs in . . . northern Minnesota that I heard some of the old charms and incantations once used in Finland to cure injuries, to invoke blessings or curses, or to charm cattle," writes Miss Edgar. "In this country the charms are remembered as folklore or told to children to amuse them. They are not as commonly known or as plentiful as the folksongs, and they are becoming more rare." Several of the charms are printed in the original Finnish with English translations by the author.

A marker designating a spot on the old trail between St. Cloud and Fort Wadsworth in Dakota Territory, near Browns Valley and the Dakota border, was dedicated by the Dr. Samuel Prescott chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution on September 28. The history of the Wadsworth trail was reviewed by Mrs. Paul LeLay of St. Cloud and Miss Grace Hall of Morris; and Mrs. Carl Thayer of Minneapolis, state regent of the Minnesota Daughters of the American Revolution, described the activities of that organization in marking historic sites.

In 1931 there was "but one covered wooden bridge left" in Minnesota, according to Rosalie Wells, whose volume on *Covered Bridges in America* was published in that year (135 p.). The Minnesota bridge, located on the Zumbro River at Zumbrota, is the subject of a brief statement and a photograph.

Some of the men who carried mail between Pembina and Crow Wing in the fifties are described in a brief article entitled "Early Mailmen Unsung Heroes" in the *Northwest Pioneer* for October. It is made up chiefly of quotations from the reminiscences of Charles Cavileer, a Pembina pioneer.

The Minnesota mining towns of Hibbing, Virginia, and Eveleth are discussed by Paul H. Landis in an article on the "Life Cycle of the Iron Mining Town" in *Social Forces* for December, 1934. The Mesabi Range, where these communities are located, "offers an unparalleled opportunity for studying culture growth and culture change," according to Mr. Landis. "The community was developed only 40 years ago and, therefore, has passed quickly through the pioneer and exploiter periods and is already reaching the conservation and declining stage," he continues. He points out that these towns "have grown from mining locations to municipalities ranging from 8,000 to 16,000 population possessed of all the conveniences known to American cities of equal size. In this brief period of time one can observe many of the changes that make the early and middle phases of a life cycle of a type of civilization." "Social Change and Social Interaction as Factors in Culture Change" in the three Mesabi Range communities are described by the same writer in an article in the *American Journal of Sociology* for July; and he contributes a study of "Cultural Adjustments to the Mesabi Resources" to *Economic Geography* for April.

Plans are under way for the "establishment of a logging museum in Stillwater as a tribute to the pioneers of the St. Croix Valley," according to an announcement in the *Stillwater Daily Gazette* for September 17. Attention is called to the fact that similar museums are to be found at Rhinelander, Wisconsin, and in Hartwick Pines State Park in Michigan. At the latter place a typical lumberman's camp, with reproductions of a kitchen, workshop, mess hall, and other buildings, has been constructed under the direction of the National

Park Service. Buildings of this type would make an appropriate setting for the preservation of objects illustrative of the early lumber industry in Minnesota and the St. Croix Valley.

Legends of the alleged lumberjack's hero, Paul Bunyan, and stories of the lumber industry in northern Minnesota were recalled in a three-day celebration at Brainerd from July 18 to 20. A pageant depicting episodes in the mythical life of Paul Bunyan was a feature of the celebration. Many of the stories that center about his name are retold in special editions of the *Brainerd Daily Dispatch* for July 12 and of the *Brainerd Tribune* for July 18.

The farm home of Oliver H. Kelley, the founder of the Granger movement, has been acquired by the National Grange, which plans to preserve the house and grounds as a memorial to Kelley. Officers of the national and state Granges met at the farm on September 12 to discuss plans for its preservation. On the same day an open meeting of the Minnesota Grange was held at Elk River, with Mr. Louis J. Taber of Columbus, Ohio, master of the National Grange, Dean W. C. Coffey of the college of agriculture of the University of Minnesota, and Mr. Willoughby M. Babcock, curator of the museum of the Minnesota Historical Society, as speakers.

An "Official Program" for a performance of *Minnesota's 1935 Historical Pageant* at Whitewater State Park on July 21 was published by the Winona Junior Chamber of Commerce, which sponsored the event (16 p.). It contains descriptions of the various episodes in the pageant, which dealt with the history of the Minnesota fur trade, and brief accounts of the chief characters in the cast. The pageant was presented also at Itasca and Jay Cooke state parks and at Fort Ridgely (see *ante*, p. 358).

The centennial of the Sibley House at Mendota was celebrated by the Minnesota Daughters of the American Revolution on July 24, when the historic house was opened to visitors at a garden party and tea. Mrs. Carl T. Thayer of Minneapolis, state regent of the organization which maintains the Sibley House as a museum, spoke, briefly outlining its history. An illustrated article by Harry D. Thorn about this frontier residence and its original owner, Henry H. Sibley, appears in the *M. A. C. Gopher* for September.

Under the title "Excerpts Taken from Historic Rambles in Gopher-Land," brief sketches relating to Minnesota history by Mark Fitzpatrick have been appearing in *Town Topics*, a St. Paul publication, since June 6. The beginnings of St. Paul and Minneapolis, the founding of Fort Snelling, some early Minnesota settlements, the Northfield bank robbery, and frontier education are the subjects of some of the sketches.

LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

A historical tour through parts of McLeod, Carver, and Hennepin counties was held on July 20 under the auspices of the Hutchinson and Glencoe historical societies. The tour was planned and directed by the presidents of the two organizations—Mr. S. S. Beach of Hutchinson and Mr. Orlando Simons of Glencoe. Among the places of historical interest visited were Komensky, long a center of Bohemian cultural life; Winsted and an old French cemetery in its vicinity, where the Reverend William Wey gave a brief talk; Excelsior on Lake Minnetonka; and Carver, where a program of papers and talks was presented. The speakers included two members of the staff of the state historical society—Miss Esther Jerabek, head of the accessions department, who read a paper on "Bohemian Pioneers of McLeod County," and Mr. Willoughby M. Babcock, curator of the museum, who spoke on "Community Memory." Reminiscent talks were presented by Mr. Frank Kasper and Miss May Hankinson, both of Glencoe.

The seventh annual North Shore Historical Assembly, a joint meeting of the Lake, Cook, and St. Louis county historical societies, was held at Beaver Bay in Lake County on August 3. The principal speaker at the afternoon session was Mrs. Florence C. Slater, who presented a paper on "High Lights in the History of Beaver Bay." The session was followed by a tour of historic sites in the vicinity, conducted by the local Boy Scouts. At the evening session papers were presented by Judge William E. Scott on "The Political Development of Lake County," by William E. Culkin on "The American North Shore of Lake Superior during the Indian, French, British, and American Regimes," and by Homer Massie on "The Early Fur Traders of the North Shore." Some interesting "historical notes" about Beaver Bay were included in the printed program of

the assembly. Judge Scott's paper is published in installments in the *Two Harbors Chronicle*, beginning with the issue of September 26.

Members of the Lake Pepin Valley and Goodhue County historical societies held a joint meeting at Frontenac on September 27. The meeting was held in commemoration of the two-hundred-and-eighth anniversary of the founding of Fort Beauharnois.

As part of a state-wide survey of historical manuscripts, inventories of records collected by local historical societies are being prepared. Lists for Rice and St. Louis counties were published *ante*, p. 241, 359. Some of the more important manuscripts preserved by the Blue Earth County Historical Society are listed below:

The constitution and by-laws of the Blue Earth County Agricultural Society, 1859, 1881, 1911; papers relating to the Blue Earth County Fair, 1861-71; a record book of old settlers, 1854-81; records kept by the Mankato Musical Society, 1873; records of the Mankato Commercial Club, 1880-1920; records kept at the Mankato post office, 1868-88; register of the Mankato House, 1859-62; diaries kept by P. K. Johnson in 1852 and Andrew Friend from 1867 to 1873 and in 1881; papers relating to the establishment of a hospital in Mankato in 1888.

The first annual summer meeting and picnic of the Anoka County Historical Society was held on the Rum River near Anoka on July 20. The speakers included Judge A. E. Giddings, Senator S. A. Stockwell, Senator C. J. Swanson, and Mrs. I. A. Caswell. Letters from several members of the society who were unable to attend the meeting appear in the *Anoka Herald* for July 24.

The exhibits of the Blue Earth County Historical Society in the pavilion of Sibley State Park recently have been "rearranged, classified and labeled carefully and accurately," according to an announcement in the *Mankato Free Press* for September 13.

Plans are under way for the erection of markers at the ends of the old Grand Portage trail, according to an announcement in the *Cook County News-Herald* of Grand Marais for August 29. An appeal for contributions to a fund with which to purchase bronze markers has been issued by the Cook County Historical Society.

A well-attended and successful session marked the summer meeting of the Crow Wing County Historical Society, which was held at Bay Lake on July 27. The speakers included Judge L. B. Kinder

of Brainerd, who related some incidents in the history of Bay Lake, and Mr. F. T. Gustafson of Pequot, who presented an account of "Indian Homes and Their Furnishings." Judge Kinder's address appears in the *Brainerd Tribune* for August 8. Notes about the activities of the local historical society and about gifts received by its museum appear from time to time in the *Tribune*. The collections of the society are described in an article in the *Brainerd Daily Dispatch* for July 12. Special attention is given to the many objects illustrative of the lumber industry—a collection that gives the museum high rank among local history museums of the upper Mississippi Valley.

A project recently inaugurated under the Federal Emergency Relief Administration in Freeborn County calls for the collection and preservation of records and objects relating to the history of the county. "The people of Freeborn County should organize a County Historical Society and then keep it going so that these priceless records may be kept and the work of the project conserved," reads an article in the *Alden Advance* for August 1.

A house-to-house canvass for manuscripts relating to the history of Lyon County was made in Marshall by the Lyon County Historical Society in co-operation with the State Emergency Relief Administration and the Minnesota Historical Society early in July. Plans are under way for the preservation and cataloging of all material collected, according to an announcement in the *Marshall Daily Messenger* for July 6.

About two thousand people attended the summer meeting and picnic of the Marshall County Historical Society, held at Big Woods Landing on July 14. Dr. Theodore C. Blegen, superintendent of the state historical society, was the principal speaker. His subject was "The Lure of Minnesota History." Drawing his illustrations from the Red River Valley, he sketched the region's role in state and national history. Papers on the history of the settlement at Big Woods Landing and on a prairie fire that once swept the district were presented by the Reverend Milton T. Bratrud of Oslo and Marvin Fjeld of Stephen. Mr. Bratrud's paper appears in the *Warren Sheaf* for July 17.

About three thousand people attended the summer meeting and picnic of the Martin County Historical Society, which was held at Dunnell on August 25. Among the speakers were Judge Julius Haycraft, who discussed the Kensington rune stone, and Mr. E. R. Flygare, who reviewed the history of Lake Fremont Township, in which Dunnell is located. Mr. Flygare's paper appears in installments in the *Fairmont Daily Sentinel* from August 27 to September 4, and it is published also in the form of a pamphlet (17 p.).

At the annual meeting of the Nicollet County Historical Society, held at Traverse des Sioux State Park on July 23, the services of the following four deceased members of the society were commemorated: Judge Henry Moll, by the Reverend F. W. Hauser; James H. Doty, by George R. Martin; William Mallgren, by George T. Olsen; and Edward A. Johnson, by Frank Borgen. The following officers were elected for the coming year: Henry N. Benson, president; Mrs. Magnus Peterson, vice president; Eugene Meyer, secretary-treasurer; Dr. Conrad Peterson, historian; and Birger J. Johnson, recorder. Members of the society endorsed a "movement recently suggested to secure the erection of housing for county historical records and relics in connection with an addition to the St. Peter public library."

At a meeting of the Nobles County Historical Society, held at Worthington on August 18, the following officers were elected for the coming year: Charles Barnes of Ellsworth, president; A. L. Wells of Brewster, vice president; Mrs. James A. Gardner of Kinbrae, secretary; and Robert Shore, treasurer. The meeting, which was addressed by the Honorable Henry N. Benson of St. Peter, was attended by about three hundred people.

Pelican Bay Park on Otter Tail Lake was dedicated at the summer meeting of the Otter Tail County Historical Society, which was held in the new park on July 14. Between two and three thousand people heard the address of dedication by Mr. N. P. R. Nelson. Other speakers were Miss Alta Kimber and Mr. O. P. B. Jacobson. Recent gifts to the society are announced under the heading "Historical Society Notes" in the *Fergus Falls Daily Journal* for July 25.

The register of a summer and sportsman's resort formerly conducted on Ten Mile Lake by Colonel O. McFarland has been presented to the Otter Tail County Historical Society by Mr. H. E. Swenson, according to an announcement in the *Fergus Falls Daily Journal* for September 13. Some information about the resort and its owner appears with the announcement.

At a meeting of the Roseau County Historical Society on June 28, the following officers were elected: Eddy E. Billberg, president; J. W. Durham, vice president; Olaf Holdahl, secretary; and J. Snustad, treasurer.

The first of a series of articles about the Winona County Historical Society, by its president, William Codman, appears in the *Winona Republican-Herald* for July 13. The first installment deals with the "origin and purpose" of the society; several of the later articles relate to local history.

LOCAL HISTORY ITEMS

The first settlers on Linwood Lake in Anoka County are the subject of an article by C. W. Ringer in the *Anoka Union* for July 24. He relates that members of the Stuart and Green families from Massachusetts settled on the shores of the lake in the fifties and that around their homes a little community of New Englanders grew up.

Some information about an old mill at Champlin is set forth in an article in the *Anoka Herald* for July 17. The first mill in the vicinity was built by A. P. and D. H. Lane in 1867. Flour produced by a roller mill built on the site in 1890 "won first place in the Chicago World Exposition" of 1893.

Early trails to and from Bemidji, as recalled by Mr. W. G. Schroeder, are described in the *Bemidji Daily Pioneer* for July 16. "It was fifty-five miles from Bemidji to Park Rapids, over the old trail, and it took two days each way to travel it by team," according to Mr. Schroeder. At Lake George, he relates, "there were two stopping places that did a brisk business." An interview with Mr. Harris Richardson, one of the original owners of the present site of Bemidji, appears in the *Pioneer* for August 10.

The first Catholic cemetery in Mankato, which was used from 1857 to 1882, is the subject of a brief article in the *Mankato Free Press* for October 1. The land recently was deeded to the city to become a part of its park system.

Mr. Fred W. Johnson is the author of a number of interesting historical articles that have been appearing in the *Brown County Journal* of New Ulm. A detailed history of the Sioux reservation in the Minnesota Valley, the Indian agencies in the region, and old Fort Ridgely appears in installments from June 14 to August 9. This is followed by accounts of the establishment of Brown County, the changes in its boundaries, its division into townships, the construction of buildings owned by the county, and its early judicial history, which appear in the issues of the *Journal* from August 16 to September 27. The articles are based upon thorough research and constitute an important contribution to the history of the Minnesota Valley. Of interest also is a "Historical Sketch of Engine Company No. 3," New Ulm Fire Department, by Alfred Schroeck, which appears in the issue for September 6; and a review of the "Early History of Cambria," by D. C. Price, published on September 13.

A paper entitled "The Westgoths and Minnesota," read by Alfred Bergin at East Union on July 21, appears in the *Weekly Valley Herald* of Chaska for July 25. It deals with Swedish pioneers who settled in Carver County in the fifties. In the same issue of the *Herald* a school paper issued at Chaska in November, 1880, is described. In this paper, known as the *School Reporter*, were published "brief compositions, scholastic standings, and bits of educational information."

Some "Forgotten Townsites" of Clearwater County, most of which were surveyed and recorded between 1900 and 1924, are described in the *Farmers Independent* of Bagley for August 29. Among the townsites noted are Mallard, Alida, Regina, Moose, Wheelock, Itasca, Murray, and St. Jefferson. Of these, one, Mallard, was at one time a thriving logging village.

A pageant depicting the history of Dakota County in eleven episodes was the feature of the seventieth Dakota County fair, held at Farmington from September 18 to 21.

The centennial of the visit to the present site of Albert Lea of the soldier for whom the city is named, Lieutenant Albert Miller Lea, was marked by the presentation of a pageant in which the history of the community was reviewed on July 30. The camp, on Albert Lea Lake, of the United States dragoons with whom Lea marched through southern Minnesota; the frontier cabin of George Ruble, one of the founders of the city; the naming of the community; the location of the county seat; and a frontier school were among the scenes depicted in the pageant. The Albert Lea chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution commemorated the centennial on September 9, when Mrs. H. J. Petran presented a talk on Lea and recalled his visit to the city in 1879. A series of articles on the life of Lea appears in the *Evening Tribune* of Albert Lea from July 18 to 30.

A brief history of labor unions in Red Wing appears in the *Red Wing Daily Eagle* for August 19. According to this account, the "oldest labor union in point of consecutive years of service in this city" is the Red Wing Stoneware and Potters Union, which was organized in 1895.

A tribute to Peter M. Gideon, who developed the Wealthy apple on his Lake Minnetonka farm in the sixties, appears in the *Minnetonka Record* for September 20. Other varieties of hardy apples developed by Gideon in experiments continued until his death in 1899 also are noted. An excellent portrait accompanies the article.

An interview with Mr. Theodore Wirth, superintendent of Minneapolis parks since January, 1906, appears in the *M. A. C. Gopher* for August. "Nature has done much for Minneapolis," said Mr. Wirth, "but its Board of Park Commissioners, created in 1883, has also done much to make Minneapolis a city of lovely environment." How swampy lakes "surrounded by mosquito-breeding swamps and marsh lands" were transformed to make the parks and lakes of the city's present residence sections is explained by Mr. Wirth. His career also is outlined in *Parks and Recreation* for July.

A brief "History of LaPorte" by Nettie Underhill, who read the account before a recent meeting of the Hubbard County Old Settlers Association, appears in the *Bemidji Sentinel* for July 12.

The issue of the *Kittson County Enterprise* of Hallock for September 11 is a "Fiftieth Anniversary Number," with a supplement of sixty-two pages devoted to articles about the history of the county and the community. The writer of an editorial in the *St. Paul Dispatch* for September 18 comments upon the issue as follows:

In 1873 Charles Hallock of New York, already of high repute as a writer, founded the publication *Forest and Stream* and concentrated his activities on outdoor topics. In his own and other publications his articles in the latter part of the 1870 decade frequently paid tribute to the notable fighting qualities of the "bronze warrior," the bass. In 1880 he came to Minnesota looking for a sportsman's paradise and purchased a Kittson county tract without knowing that it was included in a townsite not yet improved. The hotel he built immediately became popular with his readers, who came long distances to have a go at the game fish he had publicized. Their patronage was so considerable that his service was recognized by naming the town for him. The semi-centennial anniversary edition of the *Kittson County Enterprise*, published at Hallock, gives appropriate credit for Hallock's part in getting the town under way.

The articles in the *Enterprise* about the beginnings of Hallock and the man for whom it is named include quotations from his writings describing Minnesota scenes and experiences, and they are accompanied by his portrait and a picture of a hunting party at the Hallock Hotel. In addition to articles about the town, this anniversary number, which is described in the *Dispatch* as "one of the most impressive and interesting newspaper special editions ever issued from a Minnesota source," includes a wealth of material about the history of Kittson County. The geology of the region, Indian mounds and their builders, exploration, the fur trade, the establishment of the county, steamboating on the Red River, and the building of railroads are among the subjects covered in special articles. Phases of Canadian border history are touched upon in articles devoted to Lord Selkirk and his Red River colony, the Riel rebellions, and the Red River cart trade. Historical sketches of Kittson County towns and villages are included. Churches and schools are given some attention, and an article is devoted to the history of the Kittson County fair. Since no history of Kittson County has been published in book form, students of Red River Valley history will find this issue of the *Enterprise* of special value.

The completion of a quarter of a century of conservation work is commemorated in a pamphlet entitled *The First Twenty-five Years*

of the *Gopher Campfire Club, Hutchinson, Minnesota*, recently issued by a publication committee of the organization (47 p.). A brief sketch of the activities of the club in the preservation of wild life since its founding in 1910 is contributed by Everett Oleson; and sketches of two of its prominent members, Carlos Avery and Sam G. Anderson, are included in the pamphlet.

A hurdle race arranged by English settlers from Fairmont at the state fair of 1878 is recalled by Mr. H. M. Serle of Fairmont in the *Fairmont Daily Sentinel* of September 10. Mr. Serle, a member of an English colony that settled in Martin County in the seventies, relates that "the Englishmen made a circuit of fairs in this part of the state taking 18 to 20 hounds with them every year. Covered in the itinerary were Austin, Albert Lea, Blue Earth and other places."

The experiences of a pioneer farmer in southern Minnesota are recalled by Mr. George Smith of Rose Creek Township, Mower County, in an article in the *Austin Daily Herald* for August 31. He includes some interesting comments about the introduction of farm machinery in the region. Among the articles dealing with local history that have appeared in recent issues of the "magazine section" of the *Herald* are an account of the Welsh community known as the Oakland-Moscow settlement and of the services of its first pastor, the Reverend S. G. Lowry, in the issue for July 13; an early road between Wasioja and Claremont, known as "Claremont Avenue," July 6; Austin in 1860, as pictured in a local newspaper, the *Minnesota Courier*, August 3; and some early county fairs, August 10.

A threshing machine owned and operated by J. J. Mihin in Murray County in the sixties is described in the *Lake Wilson Pilot* for August 22. "He threshed in the days with his horse power outfit when 500 bushels was a good day's run," according to his account. In this period threshers "generally received 5 cents for wheat and 10 cents for flax."

The town of Ada in Norman County as it appeared in 1880 is shown in a print which is reproduced in the *Norman County Index* of Ada for August 22. It is accompanied by an interesting article about the community with notes about the buildings shown in the picture by the owner of the original, Mr. George Weatherhead.

Installments of Roy A. Baker's "History of Fergus Falls" continue to appear in the *Fergus Falls Daily Journal* (see *ante*, p. 369). The results of village elections, the building of railroads, the establishment of business houses, and the local land office are among the subjects touched upon in recent installments.

A fiftieth anniversary was celebrated on June 27 by the village of Underwood. Judge Anton Thompson, who gave the principal address, outlined the history of the community and recalled pioneer days.

The activities of the Great Western Band, organized at St. Paul by George Seibert in 1860, are recalled in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for August 25. Other musical organizations in which Seibert was active, such as the St. Paul Musical Society, also are noted. After his death, in 1897, his son and later his nephew, Mr. Fred Albrecht, directed the band.

The history of the *Sanborn Sentinel* is reviewed in the issue of that paper for August 8. The paper was established by C. K. Blandin in 1892. Most of the information set forth in the sketch was furnished by Mr. A. D. McRae of Redwood Falls, who published the paper during much of the period from 1896 to 1912.

The centennial of the building of a trading post by Alexander Faribault on the site of the city that bears his name was the occasion for a city-wide celebration at Faribault on September 25. Historical displays were arranged in the windows of business concerns and several local organizations arranged programs centering around local history. Members of the Rotary Club, for example, heard a talk on "The Beginning of Commerce in Rice County" by Mr. Herbert L. Buck, who also spoke to the students of Bethlehem Academy on the "Experiences of Alexander Faribault in Establishing a Trading Post in Faribault."

A "Publisher's Twenty-fifth Anniversary Supplement," issued with the *Northfield News* for July 19, commemorates the passing of a quarter-century since Mr. Herman Roe became the owner of the paper. A review of his career, in which his experiences as a publisher in Northfield and as an officer of the state and national editorial associations are emphasized, is contributed by Carl L. Weicht, editor of the *News*. Other articles of special interest in the "Supplement"

are an account of the early history of Northfield, in which some attention is given to "cultural ideals," and an outline of the city's newspaper history.

The history of a section of Minnesota's Canadian boundary country is the subject of a narrative by "Jake" Nelson which has been appearing in installments under the title "40 Years in Roseau Valley" in the *Roseau Times-Region* since June 6. The geography of the region under consideration, its Indian inhabitants, exploration, and early settlement are considered in the first few installments. Personal recollections of early conditions and experiences in this section of Minnesota are recorded in many of the articles. In the issue for July 25, for example, an account of a July 4 celebration of 1886 is presented.

A typical fur-trading post constructed in commemoration of the American Fur Company's post at Fond du Lac was dedicated before an audience of about twelve thousand people on August 4. Governor Olson and Dr. Raymond Moley of New York were the speakers. A collection of objects illustrative of the early history of the Fond du Lac post was placed on display. The dedication ceremonies were followed by a performance of the historical pageant given earlier at Itasca State Park (see *ante*, p. 358). A tablet on the post bears the following inscription: "Dedicated Aug. 4, 1935 to John Jacob Astor, Founder Astor Trading Post, Fond-du-lac, 1816."

A history of Little Sauk Township, appearing in the *Long Prairie Leader* in installments from July 11 to September 26, continues O. B. DeLaurier's series of Todd County township histories in that paper (see *ante*, p. 372).

An article on "Fort Beauharnois and the Mission of St. Michael" by the Reverend James L. Connelly of St. Paul, who presented it as a radio talk in November, 1934, appears in two installments in the *Wabasha County Leader* of Lake City for August 29 and September 5.

An interview with Mr. Otto Wenstrom, a Watonwan County pioneer of 1870, recorded by his daughter, Miss Ruth Wenstrom, appears in the *Watonwan County Plaindealer* of St. James for September 12. Mr. Wenstrom recalls the furnishings in his father's

cabin, he tells how the home was heated and what kind of fuel was used, he describes the crude tallow dips and homemade candles used for lighting, and he tells of the simple food eaten by the pioneers. Recollections of a blizzard and a grasshopper plague of the early seventies also are included.

Arguments against the building of a bridge across the Mississippi at Winona, advanced in La Crosse newspapers of 1867, are quoted in the *Winona Republican-Herald* for September 9. At that time bridges were regarded as obstacles to river traffic.

The political campaigns of 1890 and 1896 in Wright County are recalled in articles in the *Wright County Journal-Press* of Buffalo for August 1 and 15. The earlier account deals with a contest for a seat in the state senate; the latter, with a Congressional campaign that centered about the cause of Free Silver. Both are based upon material furnished by Mr. F. B. Lamson, who is engaged in the preparation of a history of Wright County.

The "History of School District Number Forty-five" at Howard Lake is reviewed by Allen Reinmuth in the *Howard Lake Herald* for July 25. Lists of teachers who have served the school since 1858, of the textbooks used in the school from 1879 to 1894, and of the pupils enrolled in 1869 are included in the account, which is based upon interviews with pioneers.



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