

REVIEWS OF BOOKS

Frank B. Kellogg: A Biography. By DAVID BRYN-JONES, professor of international relations, Carleton College. (New York, G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1937. viii, 308 p. Illustrations. \$3.75.)

Trust buster, corporation lawyer, United States Senator, ambassador, secretary of state, and a judge of the Permanent Court of International Justice, Frank Billings Kellogg has been sufficiently in the public eye during the past generation to be entitled to a biography, and this is what Dr. Bryn-Jones has essayed. A brief sketch of Mr. Kellogg's early life, depicting his boyhood in New York and Minnesota, his life on a Minnesota farm, the struggle to obtain a legal training, and his entrance into his professional career, precedes an account of his activity as a special prosecutor engaged in pressing suits against several of the more notorious combinations. This activity brought him into contact with numerous political celebrities, among whom was Theodore Roosevelt. Mr. Kellogg admired and liked Roosevelt and between them there grew up such an intimacy that in 1912 Mr. Kellogg followed his leader into the Progressive party.

The first third of the book is the least satisfactory part. It is marred by a certain *naïveté* which, at times, brings an almost Horatio Algerish style. Never is the reader allowed to forget that here is a man who was destined to make his mark in the world. Too frequently occur such phrases as "If Mr. Kellogg could have foreseen the future," "Little did he realize then that his experiences . . . were to be the preparation," and the like.

To some extent one is not quite satisfied with the account of Kellogg's early career because the background is not only sketchily but, on occasion, inadequately blocked in. Judging from citations to such works as Sullivan's *Our Times*, *Taft and Roosevelt — the Intimate Letters of Archie Butt*, or Roosevelt's *Autobiography*, the basic facts are drawn from sources which would not ordinarily be considered authoritative. In some instances the author has gone back to the fundamental materials, but too frequently this is not the case. When it is remembered that Mr. Kellogg first came into general public attention through his prosecution of various combinations, a surer

grounding in the economics of such organizations is desirable. Purporting to deal with these questions in more or less technical manner, the author nevertheless shows some proneness to gloss over vital facts and to use terms in a loose, although possibly popular sense. "Trust," for example, is made to serve as a designation of almost any combination: "The Standard Oil Company was the first trust to be dissolved [in 1911] under the Sherman Anti-Trust Act" (p. 66). Not too much stress should be laid on such a point as this, but it is unfortunate that it may be raised at all.

Estimates of individuals, moreover, seem to be judgments based upon a limited acquaintance with the voluminous literature which might have been tapped. Why E. H. Harriman should be called "one of the more sinister figures in the ruthless struggles of the great financial interests of the period" (p. 39) and J. J. Hill and J. P. Morgan put in a more acceptable category is not made quite clear. Opinions may differ, but more evidence to sustain the judgment should be adduced.

When portraying Mr. Kellogg as Senator, ambassador, and particularly as secretary of state, the author plunges more deeply into the subject and finds himself upon firmer ground, especially where issues of international interest are concerned. In outlining the circumstances which took Kellogg into the Senate in 1917 something more of the internal political situation in Minnesota might well have been included; this would perhaps have led to a clearer and possibly fairer picture of the defeated candidate for nomination, the incumbent Moses Clapp. As Senator, Mr. Kellogg will probably be best remembered in connection with the treaty of Versailles and the covenant of the League. When he was offered a position on the committee of foreign relations by Senator Lodge, Mr. Kellogg refused to be bound by any promise to conform his views to those of the chairman and so was not named, although during his last two years in the Senate he did receive this coveted honor. He did not sign the Round Robin; he was not opposed to the United States' entry into the League with certain mild reservations. He had, in short, an international rather than a nationalistic attitude. His defeat in 1922 by the Farmer-Labor candidate cut short a senatorial career which he apparently would have willingly continued. Here again the narrative would have been improved by a more adequate account of the internal situa-

tion in the state which made possible the election of a Farmer-Labor senator.

With his senatorial career ended, Mr. Kellogg intended to return to his law practice in St. Paul but, at the request of President Harding, he became a member of the United States delegation at the Pan-American Conference at Santiago, and thereby had aroused in him a deeper and more understanding attitude toward the Latin-American problems of his country. Once again intending to take up his law, he was diverted when, in a personal interview, President Coolidge persuaded him to replace George Harvey as ambassador to the Court of St. James's in the late summer of 1923. For nearly two years—he made it clear to the president that he was unwilling to remain beyond the end of the Harding-Coolidge term—he filled this position, agreeably to himself and Mrs. Kellogg, with satisfaction to the British government and people, and with honor to his own country. He had more than a little to do with the London Conference, which put into formal shape the essentials of the Dawes Plan, and with the subsequent Paris Conference. Both conferences are described in a memorandum prepared by Mr. Kellogg which is incorporated in the narrative. In it, among other things, he tells how he might have saved the second conference from failure and certainly saved the government of the United States considerable embarrassment by ignoring instructions from jittery bureaucrats in Washington sent while Hughes was away from the city.

It was while Mr. Kellogg was in Paris that he was sounded about his attitude toward a possible invitation to become secretary of state upon the retirement of Mr. Hughes in March, 1925, so, when a news dispatch from Washington a little later stated that he was slated for the job, it came with no surprise. As secretary, Mr. Kellogg had to do with several significant episodes, notable among which were the revived Mexican question, Nicaraguan intervention, one and nearly the last phase of the Tacna-Arica quarrel, the Pan-American Conference at Havana, attempts at the reduction of armaments, the Chinese embroglio, and the formulation of the Pact of Paris.

Dr. Bryn-Jones does not attempt to pass judgment upon the course taken by the secretary when, in June, 1925, he startled the country and aroused against himself much bitter criticism by his pronouncement upon Mexico in her relations to the world and to the United

States in particular: "Whether the tone of the statement was justified is a matter that must remain in dispute" (p. 176). Indeed, upon most controversial points the author is content to leave judgment to "history." He does point out that it was Mr. Kellogg who suggested Dwight Morrow as the ambassador to Mexico and so inaugurated a new and better period in American-Mexican relations. The author goes so far as to say that in the Nicaraguan affair, which also subjected the secretary to much adverse criticism in this country, "the mistake, if mistake was made, consisted in the sponsorship and speedy recognition of Diaz, and Mr. Kellogg, as Secretary of State, whatever his misgivings may have been, must accept responsibility for that" (p. 194).

Closely connected in fact, and in juxtaposition in the book, with Mexico and Nicaragua was the Sixth Pan-American Conference, the importance of which in allaying criticism in the United States and in placating Latin America was apparent. "Mr. Kellogg realized the importance of the occasion, and . . . he spared no effort to insure its success" (p. 197). The conference gave the secretary, disappointed by the barren results of disarmament efforts, an opportunity "to illustrate the second line of development . . . [in] the establishment of a sound and effective system of conciliation and arbitration for the American continent" (p. 202).

As to China, which was torn by the struggle between North and South, the position of the secretary is given by his biographer in these words:

When coöperation with the other Powers seemed conducive to the achievement of beneficial results . . . he did not permit theoretical considerations or possibilities of misunderstanding to stand in the way of such coöperation. On the other hand he was not prepared to permit such attempts at coöperation to limit America's freedom of action when independent action seemed desirable or necessary (p. 218).

Beyond this he was not prepared to go, as was shown when, following the Nanking incident of 1927, it seemed to him that the other powers, urging joint military action, were about to revert to a "gun-boat policy." Parenthetically it may be said that "from this point Mr. Kellogg charted the course of the United States with sufficient independence to satisfy the most exacting of his critics."

To the evolution and framing of the Pact of Paris Dr. Bryn-Jones devotes his longest chapter, for this he considers the capstone of Kel-

logg's work. In it he includes the secretary's own memorandum covering the episode. No general outline of the steps is necessary here, but attention should be paid to the author's estimate of the respective parts played by Mr. Kellogg and Dr. Shotwell.

Too much credit cannot be given to men like Professor Shotwell who did so much to create and direct . . . public opinion and on occasion to arouse it to action. But it was Mr. Kellogg's open diplomacy that gave that public opinion its unique opportunity for effective and decisive expression (p. 241).

Kellogg himself was sure that the outlawry movement did not give him the idea of the multilateral pact, although he gave M. Briand "the credit of suggesting the idea of a treaty renouncing war" (p. 230). This idea, however, he did not immediately respond to, partly because he feared other nations would feel an invidious distinction and partly because he felt certain the United States Senate would not ratify a bilateral treaty. He ascribed his success in obtaining the assent of sixty-two nations to the pact to his open diplomacy, and in getting ratification here, to his policy of keeping individual senators constantly in touch with the negotiation as it went along.

An evaluation of the significance of the pact, which the author believes to be considerable; accounts of Kellogg's retirement from the department of state, and of his service on the bench of the World Court, in which he thoroughly believed; and some reminiscent remarks conclude the work. While the author is chary in expressing judgments, and can never be said to speak harshly of his subject, the impression carried away from the reading is that Mr. Kellogg was a conscientious and honest person who performed the functions of his numerous public offices with painstaking care but no especial brilliance. Brought up in the tradition of the later nineteenth century, he found it somewhat difficult to adjust himself to changing ideas and ideals, but he was capable of entertaining new notions. In politics he was "regular," except for the temporary digression when he followed Roosevelt into the Progressive movement in 1912, but even as a Republican he deprecated the action of his party on the tariff in 1909, and, at times, displayed a far less provincial attitude than might have been expected from his environment and his upbringing. He never quite grasped the significance of the changing attitude in the United States toward Latin American problems, and was hurt by expressions of displeasure at the course he took as secretary. He out-

distanced many of his contemporaries, especially in his own party, when it came to grasping events in their world significance.

LESTER BURRELL SHIPPEE

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS

Anglo-French Boundary Disputes in the West, 1749-1763 (Illinois Historical Collections, vol. 27, French Series, vol. 2). Edited with introduction and notes by THEODORE CALVIN PEASE, University of Illinois. (Springfield, Illinois State Historical Library, 1936. clxxi, 607 p. Illustrations, maps. \$2.50.)

American boundary disputes have for the historian and the international lawyer all the puzzle lure that higher algebra and geometry hold for the mathematician, and all the spell that strategy casts on military men and chess players. Nearly every stretch of frontier has its long history of moves and countermoves on the chessboard of international diplomacy. Many attempts have been made to tell a particular part of the long and involved story of the boundaries. Still the account is incomplete, though Dr. Pease in his book of nearly eight hundred pages has told a minute part of it unusually well.

Dr. Pease is concerned only with boundary disputes in the West. Moreover, he discusses only the documents and events of the years from 1749 to 1763. Thus he is obliged to ignore both the beginning of his problem and its solution. However carefully his portion of the problem is presented, no reader can comprehend all its factors without an intimate knowledge of how, when, and why the various boundary disputes began between England and France and the reasons for failure to settle them on earlier occasions. In particular the reader should know of the earlier attempts of joint commissions (such as those of 1687 and 1699) to set boundaries between the American territories of the two nations.

Unfortunately, archive administration in the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries had not progressed to the point where the records of earlier disputes could be made available to the men attempting to settle the later ones. Consequently the peace negotiators of say 1761 and 1762 worked almost as much in ignorance of what had happened in 1687 and 1699 as if great and powerful men had not given months of time and vast quantities of energy to problems practically identical with those of the seventeen-sixties. Had books of documents, similar

to Dr. Pease's, been published for the early commissions and treaty negotiations, how much simpler would have been the tasks of the negotiators of the treaties of 1763, 1783, 1814, and 1842. And how many blunders could have been avoided. One of the greatest services that historical societies can render to the cause of peace is the publication of documents, especially those documents which throw light on discoveries, territorial claims, and boundary disputes. They will seem prosy and pedantic to the average reader, but they may save not only wars but millions of acres of territory to some government.

The documents in Dr. Pease's volume are preceded by an extremely long, historical introduction, which will save readers many hours of time. Not only are the documents discussed and evaluated, but the whole diplomatic background of the peace negotiations of the period is given in detail. Very careful editing and translating have gone into the making of the volume. In general it may be said that the text of the translated documents is more lucid than the prose of the introduction, which inclines to be rather heavy and involved.

As no two translators or transcribers will agree on the best method for reproducing a statement or sentence from one language or one medium to another, it may seem idle to point out what the reviewer would consider improvements in the translation and the transcription. The only valid excuse for mentioning them is the fact that other translators and copyists may care to hear both sides of the argument and draw their own conclusions. Persons who have no knowledge of French will be confused by Dr. Pease's use of "Chevalier" in translating such French expressions as "Chevalier Penn" and "M. le Chevalier Robinson." Surely it is better English and more truly a genuine translation to reproduce these French expressions as "Sir [William] Penn" and "Sir [Thomas] Robinson," even though "Chevalier" obviates the necessity, which "Sir" demands, of giving the man's first name.

Dr. Pease explains in a preface that "superior abbreviations have been set down to the line." The reviewer wonders how far such an explanation justifies a transcription like the following: "Mor Machault in his Character of Minr of the Marine . . . sent a Complt to Mor Roüillé . . . in wch one of their Officers had been kill'd by a party of English near the borders of Ohio—He read me the Ler Mor du Quesne the Govr of Canada had wrote to the Bureau of the Marine on thé Occasion wch was reced last Week." This

transcription will certainly puzzle nine readers out of ten, who, however, would comprehend that "Mo^r," "Compl^t," and "Le^r" are abbreviations. Probably many of them could go further and conclude that the abbreviations stand for "Monsieur," "Complaint," and "Letter," even though the editor should not see fit to increase his text by supplying the missing letters within brackets.

Three interesting maps are included in the volume, one of which is the Vaudreuil map of approximately the year 1760. Since it shows the boundary between Canada and Louisiana, as marked by Major Frederick Haldimand, it has special interest for Minnesota history. The dotted boundary line is depicted as passing along the Ohio and up the Wabash River to the vicinity of Tippecanoe; thence it swings northwestwardly past the site of Chicago to the headwaters of the Wisconsin and the St. Croix rivers; thereafter it passes directly westward to Red Lake, which is represented as lying a trifle southwest of the site of Duluth! Thus a large portion of Minnesota was regarded, by at least one person in 1760, as being a part of Louisiana.

One of the most significant documents from a Minnesota point of view is a French memoir of August 10, 1761, on the boundaries of Louisiana. The document reveals that the essential value of Canada to France was the fur trade; that most of France's furs came from the regions about and beyond the upper Great Lakes; and that Canada (already promised to England as a result of conquest, but with uncertain boundaries) could be given up with no disadvantage to France, if the limits of Louisiana were placed in such a way as to allow the fur trade to center at New Orleans, which could be reached via the Mississippi River and the Chicago portage, instead of at Montreal. By this plan all Minnesota was to be considered a part of Louisiana.

When similar volumes shall have been published for all the boundary disputes and treaty negotiations in American history, it will be possible to judge how far our present frontiers are results of statesmanship and how far they come from the mere bargaining instinct of our ancestors. At present, on the basis of such material as is presented by Dr. Pease's book, one is strongly tempted to believe that the statesmen of the eighteenth century were few and not the subjects of any one monarch.

GRACE LEE NUTE

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ST. PAUL

The Changing West and Other Essays. By LAURENCE M. LARSON, professor of history in the University of Illinois. (Northfield, Minnesota, Norwegian-American Historical Association, 1937. ix, 180 p. Illustrations. \$2.50.)

Professor Laurence M. Larson, who retired last year after many years of distinguished service as professor of history in the University of Illinois, is best known as a medievalist. As a young man he wrote a monograph of fundamental importance on the "King's Household in England before the Norman Conquest," and a few years later he followed this with a notable biography of Canute the Great. More lately he has translated into English the old Norwegian courtier's manual, the *Konungsskuggjá* (the "King's Mirror") and, last of all, in 1935, the two oldest Norwegian laws.

The court of the Anglo-Saxon and Danish kings of England and the world reflected in the "King's Mirror" are a long way in time and space from the Norwegian settlements in western America, but Professor Larson for all his preoccupation with old, forgotten things, has never lost touch with the little Norse settlement in Winnebago County, Iowa, to which he came, a very small boy, sixty years or more ago. One can well believe that it was the influence of this boyhood which turned his mature studies to pre-Conquest England and the Scandinavian North. But the influence went deeper. Professor Larson was never a chauvinist. He has never been disposed to make more of the Norse discovery of America than that remarkable achievement really deserves, but he has been deeply interested in pre-Columbian voyages to the New World, and those who heard his lectures on this subject, delivered last spring at the University of Minnesota, must regret that he does not feel ready to publish them.

Apart from this influence, however, which may be a mere guess of my own, Professor Larson has never forgotten the memories of his boyhood and youth in what must be the most thoroughly Norwegian county in Iowa. It is these memories which have led, in one way or another, to the writing of the essays in this volume and which give them their color and savor. No doubt an "American," as we used to call them, could have dealt competently with the same subjects, but the treatment would have been very different. Even the essay on Hjalmar Hjorth Boyeson—the longest in the book and the most impersonal—would have lost something; the glimpse, for instance,

of the great, white *embedsgaard* in Sogn where Boyeson grew up and which Professor Larson so completely understands.

The eight papers here collected cover a wide range. The first, which lends its title to the volume, is a penetrating study of the new America which is growing up in the vast region between the Great Lakes and the Missouri—an America which most certainly is not British, though our speech and our institutions come from England. In two essays, "The Norwegian Element in the Field of American Scholarship," and "The Norwegian Element in the Northwest," Professor Larson discusses briefly the contribution of the Norwegian people to the civilization of the New World. They will not satisfy professional patriots, but they are eminently fair and sane, though they are, necessarily, a little hurried. Two other essays deal with the little explored subject of Norwegian-American literature. The first, on "Tellef Grundysen and the Beginnings of Norwegian-American Fiction" is a notable introduction to a field which urgently calls for its historian. No doubt the works of imaginative literature written in Norwegian in this country of any real artistic significance are few; they are not totally lacking, and even the most amateurish of them have an importance as historical documents out of all proportion to their aesthetic quality. The study of Hjalmar Hjorth Boyeson I have already referred to. In his day Boyeson, all of whose books were written in English, established a great position in American letters. His success was deserved, for there can be no question that he was a remarkable man; but I fancy it will turn out that Boyeson, too, is more significant as a figure in the history of American civilization than of American literature.

But the three essays to which most readers will turn with greatest interest are those on "The Convention Riot at Benson Grove, Iowa, in 1876," "*Skandinaven*, Professor Anderson, and the Yankee School," and the last one of all, "The Lay Preacher in Pioneer Times." These are historical and cultural studies of first-class importance, and they are as engaging as they are important. The first tells of the conquest of an "American" county by Norwegian immigrant voters; the third is a warm and understanding, but not uncritical, appreciation of the lay preachers and the lay movement in the Norwegian Lutheran church. Professor Karen Larsen's biography of her father threw a good deal of light on this chapter of Norwegian-American

history. But who will tell the whole story, so full of dead passions and forgotten loyalties, yet so real, and still so moving?

The battle over education, too, is long since over. Professor Anderson and *Skandinaven* have won. Doubtless they deserved to win. But no one can read the criticism of the old synod pastors of the public school system without a deep conviction that they were in good part right. A separate system of Norwegian schools on Norwegian lines was perhaps impossible, even undesirable. But they built a grand little college at Decorah without the help of coeds, "activities," or a football team.

In a prefatory note Professor Blegen extends to Professor Larson the congratulations of the Norwegian-American Historical Association on the distinguished work he has done and the honors that have come to him. I venture to think that no part of that work has given him more pleasure than this little volume. Certainly no part of it has given more pleasure to others than this will give.

MARTIN B. RUUD

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS

Steamboating on the Upper Mississippi: The Water Way to Iowa, Some River History. By WILLIAM J. PETERSEN. (Iowa City, The State Historical Society of Iowa, 1937. 575 p.)

In this volume Dr. Petersen has gathered a mass of valuable information about steamboating on the upper Mississippi River. The book covers the period from about 1820 to the late seventies—more than half a century of steamboats and steamboating. The first four chapters give a geographical and historical summary or background, and the story of the development of the steamboat is told in the next five. It is not until chapter 10 that the theme of the volume is reached—steamboating on the upper Mississippi River. In successive chapters, the author tells of the growth of St. Louis as the northern terminus of boats on the lower river; the beginnings of navigation on the upper river by the "Engineer," which in 1820 went up as far as the rapids at the mouth of the Des Moines; and the "Virginia," which in 1823 successfully surmounted the lower rapids and those at Rock Island and steamed on to Fort Snelling. For half a century thereafter, the steamboat was the principal means of transportation for the country above the mouth of the Missouri River.

Dr. Petersen describes in detail the part played by steamboats in the development of the frontier. They transported troops and supplies, they were called into service to carry gifts and annuities to the Indian agencies for distribution among the Indians, to bear government officials to the Indian country to negotiate treaties, and even, upon occasion, to carry Indians from one reservation to another. He points out that steamboats played a part no less important in the fur trade, for they brought trade goods and supplies to the upper Mississippi River posts of the great trading companies, and carried to the fur markets the produce of their trade with the Indians. In the development of the lead mines in the Dubuque and Galena districts, the author shows, the steamboat played a leading role.

The heyday of the steamboat business came in the period when the upper Mississippi River country was opened to settlement. It declined when railroads were built to compete with the boats. Its greatest glory came in the period when Minnesota was being settled. It was then, according to Dr. Petersen, that the steamboat excursions became a popular form of entertainment, and the most spectacular of these was the "Grand Excursion of 1854," celebrating the completion of the Chicago and Rock Island Railroad to Rock Island. At least twelve hundred excursionists on a fleet of seven boats journeyed up the Mississippi from Rock Island to St. Paul and back. The author depicts life on a steamboat as diverting and sometimes uncomfortable, but seldom monotonous. The captains and crews were as colorful as the steamboats they manned. Captains like Joseph Throckmorton and Daniel Smith Harris are the subjects of individual sketches.

The narrative is broken up into forty-eight chapters, most of which are short and episodic. Several of them have appeared previously in the *Palimpsest*, a monthly publication of the State Historical Society of Iowa, and some have been published in slightly different form in *MINNESOTA HISTORY*. They are crammed with facts, and the stories are told, on the whole, in an interesting way. The effectiveness of the book is marred, however, by its organization, for its division into so many short chapters, some of which in turn are subdivided, makes the volume as a whole seem jerky and disconnected. A considerable amount of material is included which is irrelevant to the subject of steamboating on the upper Mississippi River. The first four chapters, for example, could have been summarized in even briefer form, or eliminated altogether, and the same is true of the group of chap-

ters relating to the course of westward expansion. A serious defect is the total absence of maps and illustrations.

Several chapters stand out as superior. They include that dealing with the fur trade, which previously was published in MINNESOTA HISTORY (see *ante*, 13:221-243) and those describing "Life on the Deck and in the Cabin," "Cabin and Deck Passage," and "Many Cargoes and Strange." Throughout the volume, however, Dr. Petersen's industry in collecting material is evident. He made extensive use of the facilities of the libraries in the historical societies of Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Minnesota, and during the course of his research he traveled thousands of miles up and down the Mississippi, interviewing veteran rivermen, poking into old warehouses, and checking newspapers and manuscripts in scores of out-of-the-way places. He has unearthed a wealth of material to enrich the story of steamboating.

Dr. Benj. F. Shambaugh contributes a prefatory note, which at first glance might seem to be a list of chapter headings. It has the appearance of blank verse, but perhaps it is an example of poetic surrealism.

ARTHUR J. LARSEN

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ST. PAUL

Western Lands and the American Revolution (University of Virginia, Institute for Research in the Social Sciences, *Monographs*, no. 25). By THOMAS PERKINS ABERNETHY. (New York and London, D. Appleton-Century Company, 1937. xv, 413 p. Maps. \$4.00.)

This scholarly study of the political problems involved in the administration of the lands situated between the Appalachian divide and the Mississippi River opens with a summary of Virginia's activities in that region prior to 1766. It concludes with an account of the movement for new western states during the Confederation period. The author traces the efforts of colonies and states to handle the land question, with especial reference to Virginia and its relations with Pennsylvania and North Carolina, and discusses the place of the West in national politics and international diplomacy. Little attention is given to the evolution of land policy.

Contributing fresh detail concerning land companies and outstand-

ing speculators, Professor Abernethy asserts that their interests did not follow a sectional or provincial alignment, and he points out that economic advantage was not necessarily dependent upon the political jurisdiction either of a particular state or of Congress. It is his view that the middle-state group of merchant speculators did not believe their land claims would be hopelessly sacrificed even though the territory west of the Allegheny Mountains remained under British or Spanish control; hence in 1782 they did not insist upon the Mississippi as a boundary. Evidence is introduced to show that after the war the Wilkinson intrigue and the separatist movements in the Southwest were initiated mainly by speculators and did not have the support of the rank and file of the western settlers.

The chapters of the book are of somewhat uneven merit, perhaps because the author confines himself too closely to his notes to present a well-rounded narrative. Yet his research has been prodigious and students of the period will be grateful to him for the detailed information that he has brought together. The reference value of the volume is enhanced by the reproduction of several contemporary maps.

CHARLES M. GATES

UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON
SEATTLE

The Church Founders of the Northwest: Loras and Cretin and Other Captains of Christ. By M. M. HOFFMANN. (Milwaukee, The Bruce Publishing Company, 1937. xiii, 387 p. Illustrations. \$3.00.)

This book tells the story of Catholic beginnings in Iowa and Minnesota. It is occasioned by the centenary, in July, 1937, of the establishment of a bishopric in Dubuque. Bishop Loras was the founder of catholicity along the upper reaches of the Mississippi, and Joseph Cretin, first bishop of St. Paul, was intimately associated with him in his work. Father Hoffmann, author of this study, has long been identified with the narrative of religious history in the Northwest. As secretary of the Iowa Catholic Historical Society he has taken pains to discover and evaluate sources of information hitherto unused. And the panorama that he outlines, although wide and varied, is done with considerable exactitude of detail, a fine sympathy, and true perspective. This is easily the best work that has appeared in this field.

Source material that had long been gathering dust in Dubuque,

Washington, St. Paul, and Paris is here brought to light and presented judiciously. Obviously, it could not all be used, but enough is presented to document the story. The tale of governmental bungling of the Indian problem, the smug intolerance that defeated genuine Christian zeal, is recounted and illustrated. The heartaches caused by misunderstandings and national antipathies are indicated where they seemed to interfere with the work of religion. The struggles of the pioneer missionaries to build, out of the poverty of their flock, churches, schools, and charitable institutions, are depicted; and credit is given to the various organizations of the Old World that sustained the work with well nigh two hundred thousand dollars given from 1838 to 1858 during the episcopacy of Bishop Loras. These and other features that formed the background against which these missionaries labored are sketched with a capable hand. There may be some over-accentuation in one or another detail, but the author has preserved good balance.

Similarly, the author avoids painting too strongly the characters that he discusses. They are there, "warts and all," with their quarrels and petty littlenesses serving betimes to enhance the heroism of their lives. For after all, these churchmen were first of all men. And so we read of a fine generosity that often set innate prejudice aside to work for the good of the cause. Of chief interest is the fine friendship that bound Loras and Cretin. But many other colorful figures fill in the scene: Ravoux, Pelamourges, Mazzuchelli—who was Matthew Kelly to many an Irish admirer—Galtier, and Pierz.

Of flaws there are not many, nor are they serious. There is a stiffness in some of the translations—those particularly that are done from documents in the archives of the Society for the Propagation of the Faith in France. Joseph N. Nicollet is called Jean (p. 39, 40, 65, 105), and there is mention of "several of the nieces" of Bishop Cretin, whereas he had but one living at the time he was bishop. A letter said to be undated (p. 97) actually is dated in the text, and it shows that the day of Cretin's departure from France was August 27, 1838, instead of August 17, as is indicated by Father Hoffmann. But these are minor errors that detract but little from the superior worth of his study.

JAMES L. CONNOLLY

ST. PAUL SEMINARY
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

The Federal Union: A History of the United States to 1865. By JOHN D. HICKS, professor of history in the University of Wisconsin. (Boston, Houghton Mifflin Company, 1937. xvii, 734 p. Illustrations, maps. \$3.50.)

In this study Professor Hicks surveys American history from the period of discovery to the emergence of the Federal Union, after the Civil War, as "one and indivisible."

The fruit of eighteen years of lecturing to college students—as the author himself discloses—the volume is richly interpretative, admirably objective, lucid in presentation, and eminently readable. For college use it has qualities that make for teachability. For the general reader who wants to freshen his history and bring his interpretations into conformity with the latest scholarship, the volume is well adapted. The allocation of space is good. The West as a formative influence in American history fittingly receives greater attention than has been customary. The slavery controversy does not overcrowd the stage. Foreign relations are handled with fine objectivity. The biographical sketches are deftly done. The footnotes are intended as suggestions for further investigation so that the reader, as he advances, is reminded, often with succinct comment, of the wealth of material available. The forty-seven illustrations—half of them portraits—are well chosen, and the thirty-four maps—one-third of them in color—are in general good. In short the reviewer finds a great deal to commend and nothing worth mentioning to criticize.

CLARENCE W. RIFE

HAMLIN UNIVERSITY
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

A Check List of Manuscripts in the Edward E. Ayer Collection. Compiled by RUTH LAPHAM BUTLER. (Chicago, The Newberry Library, 1937. viii, 295 p. \$5.00.)

The first impression that one gets of this volume is the exceedingly favorable one that comes from handling a book of fine design and workmanship. Cover, size, texture of paper, type, margins, and general format—all conspire to make the reader eager to explore further. As he studies the text, he finds that the form has not belied the substance. It is a thoroughly planned, well-executed check list of an important collection of manuscripts.

Though the collection seems rather heterogeneous, if randomly sampled, it actually groups itself into seven divisions: manuscripts relating to the history of North America, Spanish America, the Philippine Islands, and the Hawaiian Islands; and documents concerning the languages of the Indians and of the natives of the Philippine and Hawaiian islands. It should be added that many of the entries represent merely copies, not original manuscripts.

Among the manuscripts most closely related to Minnesota history are the Dousman Papers, various documents of American Fur Company interest, numerous single letters and other items of the French regime in Canada and the West, several Henry H. Sibley items, material on the Dakota language, Indian mission data, some correspondence of Josiah Snelling, letters by George Copway, copies of certain Bobé documents of early eighteenth century geographical interest for the country west of Lake Superior, a letter by John Marsh concerning the so-called Carver grant, a copy of the Pénicaut narrative, and some Robert Rogers items.

G.L.N.

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES

Dr. John T. Flanagan ("The Hoosier Schoolmaster in Minnesota") is an instructor in English in the University of Minnesota and has contributed to this magazine a series of articles on the visits of noted literary figures to Minnesota. Lois M. Fawcett ("Some Early Minnesota Bells") is the head of the reference department in the library of the Minnesota Historical Society. Dr. Fulmer Mood ("An Unfamiliar Essay by Frederick J. Turner") has been a fellow of the John Simon Guggenheim Foundation, an international research fellow at the Huntington Library, and a member of the history faculty of Harvard University. Helen Dunlap Dick ("A Newly Discovered Diary of Colonel Josiah Snelling") was educated at Wellesley College and is a resident of Minneapolis. Mrs. Dick has written for the *Bellman*, the *Ladies Home Journal*, the *Springfield Republican*, and other newspapers and magazines. Everett E. Edwards ("Agricultural Periodicals") is agricultural economist for the bureau of agricultural economics in the United States department of agriculture and editor of *Agricultural History*. E. L. Roney ("An Old Store at Marine") is the president of the Washington County Historical Society. He is connected with the *St. Paul Daily News*. The reviewers include Professor Lester B. Shippee of the University of Minnesota, who has recently edited *Bishop Whipple's Southern Diary* for publication by the University of Minnesota Press; Professor Martin B. Ruud, also of the University of Minnesota, editor and translator with Mr. Blegen of a recently published volume entitled *Norwegian Emigrant Songs and Ballads*; Father James L. Connolly, professor of church history in St. Paul Seminary; Dr. Charles M. Gates, formerly on the staff of the Minnesota Historical Society and now a member of the history faculty of the University of Washington at Seattle; Dr. Grace Lee Nute, curator of manuscripts for the historical society; Professor Clarence W. Rife, head of the history department in Hamline University; and Arthur J. Larsen, head of the newspaper department in the library of the historical society.

The eighty-ninth annual meeting of the society will be held in St. Paul on Monday, January 10, with the usual sessions: a conference on local history, the annual luncheon, the afternoon business session, and the annual address in the evening. Dr. Edgar B. Wesley, professor of education in the University of Minnesota and the author of *Teaching the Social Studies*, *Guarding the Frontier*, and other important books, will give the annual address. He has chosen as his subject "History at Home."

A total of 326 readers used the manuscript resources of the society during the quarter ending on October 1. In addition to Minnesota, students came from New York, Wisconsin, Iowa, Nebraska, Washington, D. C., and the province of Manitoba to consult manuscripts in the custody of the society. Among the readers were members of the staffs of the United States department of agriculture, the National Archives, and the National Park Service. One user of manuscripts was Martha Ostenso, the well-known novelist.

The society has recently acquired a "Recordak" or reading machine, which projects impressions made on motion picture film onto a white surface, where they are enlarged to several times the size of ordinary news print. The machine is particularly adapted for use in the reading of film copies of newspapers.

Among the Minnesota scenes reproduced in miniature groups recently placed on display in the society's museum are an early lumber camp, an open pit iron mine, and a Red River ox-cart train. A total of thirteen groups depicting typical scenes from Minnesota pioneer life have now been completed for the society by artists engaged in a WPA project.

Fourteen annual members joined the society during the quarter ending on October 1: James D. Abajian of Madison, Wisconsin; Lewis Baker of Osakis; Helen B. Clapesattle, Agnes Elstad, Marion Gale, Ethel Hallberg, Louise Mott, and J. Cameron Thompson of Minneapolis; and Alice B. Daley, Wood R. Foster, Gertrude Krausnick, Georgiana P. Palmer, George J. Ries, and Marvin W. Strate of St. Paul.

The Chippewa Region Historical Society, with headquarters at Cass Lake, has become an institutional member of the society.

The society lost ten active members by death during the summer and early fall: Sylvester W. Runyan of Detroit Lakes, June 27; Dr. Charles W. Bray of Biwabik, July 7; Edwin G. Chapman of Minneapolis, July 12; Anson S. Brooks of Minneapolis, August 3; John M. Bradford of St. Paul, August 13; Hugh J. McClearn of Duluth, August 24; John G. Williams of Duluth, August 29; William L. Hilliard of Lengby, September 5; Franklin M. Crosby, Jr., of Minneapolis, September 7; and Otis M. Botsford of Winona, September 27.

The superintendent participated in a conference held at Atlantic City on September 24 and 25 under the auspices of the Social Science Research Council to discuss ways of promoting the study of local history in the United States.

"Immigration and the Westward Movement in Ballad and Song" was the subject of an address presented by the superintendent at the Superior State Teachers College on July 7. He described the state historical convention of 1937 at a meeting of the Zonta Club of St. Paul on July 13. Miss Nute spoke on "A Boyhood at Old Fort Snelling" before the Minneapolis Women's Club on August 31, and on "The Voyageur" at a meeting of the Study Club of Minneapolis on September 24. Mr. Babcock gave talks on "Hunting History by Automobile" before the Optimist Club of Minneapolis on July 21, and on "Highways and History" at meetings of the Blue Earth County Old Settlers' Association at Mankato on August 12 and of the Marshall County Historical Society at Stephen on September 19. "Some Historic Bells of Minnesota" was the title of a paper read by Miss Fawcett at a meeting of the Minnesota Public Health Association in St. Paul on August 10.

ACCESSIONS

Film copies of about sixteen hundred sheets of the *Nor'-Wester*, a newspaper which began publication in the Red River settlements in 1859, have been made for the society from originals preserved in the Provincial and Public libraries of Winnipeg. The decade from 1859 to 1869 and the years 1874 and 1875 are represented in the files copied. Now that the film copies have been added to the few originals in the society's possession and photostatic copies of some issues

from the Public Archives of Canada at Ottawa, it is possible to consult in the society's library more issues of this excessively rare newspaper than in any other library. The *Nor'-Wester* is rich in material on Canadian-American relations and on the history of the Red River Valley, both in Minnesota and in Canada.

A volume of records of baptisms, marriages, and burials at St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Lake Elmo from 1855 to 1937 has been copied for the society by the photographic process. The Reverend W. D. Ahl of St. Paul has presented several volumes of the records of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Washington County, including minutes of meetings of the congregation and the trustees from 1861 to 1881, three pulpit books of church announcements made from 1877 to 1905, and a register of families that have belonged to the church. The latter gives the places and dates of births of individuals and, for those of foreign birth, the dates of immigration to America.

A volume of minutes of meetings of the society and the board of trustees of the First Presbyterian Church of Hastings in the period from 1856 to 1876 has been presented by Mr. Clifford Nordstrom of Hastings.

Minutes of town meetings and of the meetings of the board of supervisors, papers relating to the construction of roads, poll and tax lists, records of the justice of the peace, and financial records are included among the archives of Independence Township, Hennepin County, covering the period from 1858 to 1932, recently received through the courtesy of the township officers. Articles of association or bylaws for the Minnetonka Fruit Growers' Association, the Maple Plain Fruit Growers' Association, the Maple Plain Co-operative Creamery Company, and the Independence Co-operative Dairy Association also are to be found among the archives, which fill twenty-five boxes and thirteen volumes.

Transcripts and calendar cards of items of Minnesota interest recently made for the society from New England newspapers in Boston libraries include information on the Indian missionary and orator, George Copway, on panoramas and cycloramas, on slavery in Minnesota just before the Civil War, on Jane Grey Swisshelm, on the

Hutchinson family of itinerant singers, and on Caleb Cushing, Robert Rantoul, and other investors in water-power rights on the St. Croix River.

Lists of people killed in Renville County in the Sioux Outbreak of 1862, of whites and half-breeds at Camp Release in October, 1862, and of Indians condemned by the military court at that place are among seven items from the papers of Stephen R. Riggs, missionary to the Sioux, which have been presented by his son, the Reverend Thomas L. Riggs of Oahe, South Dakota. Mr. Riggs has presented also his own "Comments on the Hazelwood Republic."

Camp life in Iowa and Kentucky during the Civil War is described in a diary kept in Graham shorthand by True Morrill and presented by his nephew, Mr. M. H. Morrill of Superior, Wisconsin, together with a typewritten translation. The author was a member of Company K of the Thirty-eighth Iowa Volunteer Infantry.

Letters of William G. Le Duc, Ignatius Donnelly, and Russell Sage are included among seventy items recently copied for the society by the photostatic process from the papers of William K. Rogers in the possession of the Harvard College Library. All the items relate to the building and financing, from 1868 to 1870, of the Hastings and Dakota Railroad, of which Le Duc was president and Rogers, attorney.

Five letters written between 1868 and 1875 by Albert E. Bugbee from Paynesville in Stearns County to a friend in his old home at Belchertown, Massachusetts, have been copied for the society through the courtesy of his daughter, Mrs. R. F. Schwartz of Paynesville. In 1870, Bugbee reported that a "young man can make more money in a year, & live upon less than half that he could in the East." He told his friend, however, that "things are not quite as convenient and comfortable here as they are in the East, but every year brings us nearer and nearer to the manners and customs of the East." Bugbee was an enthusiastic hunter, he taught school, played in the town band, and served as town clerk, and comments on all these activities are included in his letters.

Some twenty volumes of records of the Church of the Good Shepherd in St. Paul for the period from 1869 to 1917 have been added

by Mr. George Bell of St. Paul to the archives of the Minnesota diocese of the Protestant Episcopal church. Included are records of baptisms, marriages, and burials, minutes of meetings of the parish and vestry, account books, registers of communicants, and class books of the parish and Sunday schools. Mr. Bell has also added to the diocesan archives two account books of the Church Mission Society of St. Paul and minutes of its meetings from 1887 to 1893.

The reminiscences of a pioneer railroad engineer in Minnesota, Mr. E. T. Abbott of Minneapolis, have been presented by the author. The building of railroads in the state and of street railways in Minneapolis receive much attention, and descriptions of Minneapolis and of Nicollet Island in the seventies are included.

Diaries kept in the Mennonite community of Mountain Lake from 1881 to 1900 by John Becker and from 1916 to 1920 by Mrs. Hermann J. Fast, both in German, have been copied for the society from the originals in the possession of Mr. J. J. Becker of Mountain Lake. They relate for the most part to farming operations and agricultural prices, and to social and church activities.

The papers of the late Jean Spielman, Minnesota state printer from 1933 to 1936 and a national organizer for several labor unions, have been presented by his widow, who resides in St. Paul. They consist for the most part of letters, newspaper and magazine clippings, and leaflets relating to the labor movement in the United States. Included are three volumes of minutes of meetings from 1901 to 1910 of a flour packers' union of Minneapolis, later known as the Flour and Cereal Workers' Union. Other items in the collection relate to Spielman's activities as a representative of the International Brotherhood of Bookbinders.

Interesting and detailed information on the school districts of Pope County, compiled by the Pope County Historical Society with the assistance of the WPA, has been filed with the society. The material includes a brief history of each school district, a map showing its original and present boundaries, a chart giving financial statistics, and lists of officers and teachers, with the latter's salaries.

Papers on Charles A. Lindbergh, Sr., by Mr. Robert D. Anderson and on "The People's Lawyer: A Study of the Life of James

Manahan and His Part in the Progressive Movement of the Middle West" by Carlyle Beyer have been presented by their respective authors. Both were submitted in June, 1937, at Hamline University for special honors in the department of history. A master's thesis on "Governor John A. Johnson and the Reform Era in Minnesota State Government," submitted at the University of Wisconsin by Roy W. Oppegard, has been copied on film slides for the society.

Theatrum belli in America septentrionali is the title of a map, probably published in Germany about 1776, recently acquired by the society. It shows the eastern half of what is now the United States and southern Canada, including much of the Mississippi Valley and the present state of Minnesota. Changes in county lines and names in Minnesota can be traced on five other maps recently added to the map collection. Three published by J. H. Colton and Company of New York depict Minnesota Territory in 1855 and 1856 and Minnesota and Dakota in 1861. Included also are H. B. Griswold's map of Minnesota Territory in 1857, probably published at New Orleans, and a map of the state in 1874 published by Taintor Brothers and Merrill of New York.

A copy of C. J. Bertrand's *Histoire de la ville d'Ath, documentée par ses archives* (Mons, 1906) has been presented by Mr. E. C. Gale of Minneapolis. The volume is of Minnesota interest because it includes a sketch, and a brief account of the explorations, of Father Louis Hennepin, who was born in the Belgian village of Ath.

A recent addition to the society's collection of publications relating to the Scandinavian elements is a volume of reminiscences by Eivind D. Aakhus entitled *Minne frå noreg og Amerika* (1932. 112 p.). The author emigrated from Norway in 1878, settled in the Red River Valley and engaged in farming, and later became well-known as a violinist. In the first quarter of the present century he gave many concerts in Minnesota.

Candelabra, trays, candle snuffers, a coffee pot, serving dishes, serving spoons, a ladle, teaspoons, forks, and many other handsome pieces of silver that were used in the home of Dr. and Mrs. William W. Folwell have been presented by Miss Mary H. Folwell of Minneapolis.

Among recent additions to the society's numismatic collection are a dollar paper note issued by the Dayton bank of St. Paul, from Mr. Clinton L. Brooke of Evanston, Illinois; three paper notes issued by the Erie and Kalamazoo Railroad, from Mr. Carl Vitz of Minneapolis; and some medals presented by Mrs. Barbara B. Lindstrom of Mason City, Iowa.

A cape of white moire trimmed with a heavy fringe, dating from the late fifties, and a quilt that was brought to Minnesota in 1871 are the gifts of Miss Hattie M. Hawes of Minneapolis. Miss Elcie Hotchkiss of St. Paul has presented a black taffeta mantle worn in 1855.

NEWS AND COMMENT

One of the nation's largest and most valuable collections of American historical material is described in a recently published *Guide to the Resources of the American Antiquarian Society: A National Library of American History* (Worcester, Massachusetts, 1937. 98 p.). A sketch of the history of the society and accounts of its membership, its publications, its needs, and its building precede the detailed description of its resources—of the many classes of materials that it collects and preserves. Among the illustrations are reproductions of pictures, title pages of rare books, manuscripts, broadsides, and other items. It is of interest to note that the librarian of the society is Mr. R. W. G. Vail, a former librarian on the staff of the Minnesota Historical Society.

Jesuit Relations of Canada, 1632-1673: A Bibliography is the title of a scholarly work by James C. McCoy which is described in the introduction by Lawrence C. Wroth as the "sublimation of a century of progress by numerous scholars in the correct listing and description of the 132 editions and distinct variants in which the 41 separate Relations are found" (Paris, 1937). The inclusion of reproductions of the title pages of the principal editions of the *Relations* is an interesting feature of the book.

The *American Literary Annuals & Gift Books, 1825-1865* that are the subject of a recent volume by Ralph Thompson (New York, 1936) sometimes included contributions by western writers and articles about frontier life. In his "Catalog" of gift books, for example, the author reveals that the *Iris* for 1852 was made up largely of tales by Mrs. Mary Eastman about Indians who lived in the vicinity of Fort Snelling. The volume was reissued under the title of the *Romance of Indian Life* in 1853. Mr. Thompson could have pointed out that some of William J. Snelling's stories with a Minnesota setting appeared first in gift books.

A hundred and thirty-one Minnesota items are included in a union list of the *Official Publications of American Counties* compiled by James G. Hodgson, librarian of the Colorado State College (Fort

Collins, Colorado, 1937). In the preparation of this impressive list, which includes more than five thousand items, "325 libraries were checked or were circularized for holdings." Most of the Minnesota items included are to be found in the library of the Minnesota Historical Society. The work has been published in mimeographed form.

The administration of William Gates LeDuc as United States commissioner of agriculture from 1877 to 1881 is reviewed by Alfred C. True in his *History of Agricultural Experimentation and Research in the United States, 1607-1925*, which has been published by the department of agriculture as number 251 of its *Miscellaneous Publications* (1937). Mr. True concludes that "LeDuc's administration was marked by definite expansion and strengthening of the Department's scientific work." The early agricultural experiment work of the University of Minnesota also is discussed in the volume.

A general study of *Social Security in America*, published by the Social Security Board as number 20 of its *Publications* (Washington, 1937. 592 p.), contains much information about activities in the individual states before the passage of the Social Security Act in 1935. For Minnesota, for example, figures are to be found in this volume relating to employment and unemployment, unemployment compensation, old-age assistance, the care and protection of children, aid to the blind, infant and maternal mortality, public health service, and the like.

Major Charles W. Elliott of Minneapolis, who contributed material from his father's diary to the June number of MINNESOTA HISTORY under the title "The University of Minnesota's First Doctor of Philosophy," has recently brought out, through the Macmillan Company of New York, a full-length biography of *Winfield Scott: The Soldier and the Man* (1937. 817 p.). Based as this work is upon many years of patient research by a resourceful scholar who has attempted to find and use all significant and pertinent materials, manuscript and printed, it at once takes rank as an authoritative biography, the first adequate work written on the career and character of General Scott. It is at the same time a fascinating story, clearly and interestingly written. This magazine is not the place to review in detail the subject matter of Major Elliott's story, but one

direct Minnesota connection should be noted—a visit of inspection by the general to Fort St. Anthony in the twenties and his recommendation, made to Secretary Calhoun, that its name should be changed to Fort Snelling, in honor of Colonel Josiah Snelling, an “old comrade.” In a few words Major Elliott etches a picture of the frontier fort: “The post was then a lonely sentinel deep in the virgin wilderness; the two great cities Minneapolis and St. Paul, which now flank the reservation, were then nonexistent.” T.C.B.

A chapter of Oscar Thompson's *American Singer* (New York, 1937) is devoted to the career of Olive Fremstad, the Norwegian American prima donna, whose family settled in Minnesota in the early eighties and who “was a soprano soloist in a prominent Minneapolis church and was attracting attention locally in concerts” when she was sixteen years of age. Other artists mentioned in the volume who went from Minnesota to the operatic stage are George Meader and Florence Macbeth.

In *Printing in the Americas* (New York, 1937), John Clyde Oswald has tried to tell in one volume something of the history of printing not only in each state of the Union, but in the rest of North America and in Central and South America as well. The Minnesota section of the volume covers seven pages (p. 438–44), the greater portions of two of which are devoted to illustrative material. Mr. Oswald discusses the beginning of the newspaper press in Minnesota, mentioning briefly the *Minnesota Register*, the *Minnesota Pioneer*—forerunner of the present-day *St. Paul Pioneer Press*—and a few other St. Paul newspapers of the fifties, as well as the *St. Anthony Express*, the *Northwestern Democrat* of St. Anthony and Minneapolis, and the *Falls Evening News*, the first daily newspaper in Minneapolis. The Twin City newspaper combine of the seventies, headed by the *Pioneer Press* of St. Paul, which merged the leading daily newspapers of the Twin Cities into one edition, is given considerable attention. The development of printing other than that done by newspapers is not discussed, except for a brief mention of the press taken to Cass Lake in 1849 by Alonzo Barnard, a missionary among the Chippewa, and a somewhat more detailed account of the growth of the McGill-Warner Company of St. Paul and Minneapolis. The accounts of printing in the various states are sketchy, but much valuable information is assembled in the volume. A.J.L.

That the National Editorial Association was organized as a result of a resolution adopted at a conclave of the Minnesota Editors' and Publishers' Association in 1884 is brought out by Alfred M. Lee in his recent volume on the *Daily Newspaper in America* (New York, 1937). At the instance of its president, Benjamin B. Herbert, the Minnesota association suggested the "calling of a convention to organize a National Editors' and Publishers' Association in and for the United States of America," and in the following December a "committee of five headed by Herbert circularized the associations of the country with the request that they attend" such a meeting at New Orleans in February, 1885. At this meeting, writes Mr. Lee, the "first permanent organization of national scope for general trade purposes among newspapermen . . . took shape."

Henry R. Wagner's *The Plains and the Rockies: A Bibliography of Original Narratives of Travel and Adventure, 1800-1865* has been revised and extended by Charles L. Camp and issued in a new and handsome edition by the Grabhorn Press of San Francisco (1937. 299 p.). Geographically, the scope is about the same as that of the edition of 1921. According to Mr. Camp, "the field covered is the region west of the Missouri and east of the Sierra Nevada, Oregon and Washington, north of Mexico and Texas and south of the Arctic Circle."

In the first of two volumes on *Hunting Wild Life with Camera and Flashlight: A Record of Sixty-five Years' Visits to the Woods and Waters of North America*, George Shiras, 3d, deals with the "Lake Superior Region" (Washington, National Geographic Society, 1936). Although much of the author's material is drawn from northern Michigan, the birds, animals, flowers, trees, and fungi that he pictures and describes are typical of the Minnesota country also. Whole chapters, for example, are devoted to muskrats and beavers. "Moose and Deer of Northeast Minnesota and Adjacent Ontario" is the title of another chapter, which deals largely with the Superior National Forest and the Gunflint Lake area. It includes an appreciation of the work of Carlos Avery as state game commissioner.

The "joyful strength and shameless extravagance of America in her Heroic Age" are reflected in the stories of wilderness heroes

which have been reprinted in a volume entitled *Their Weight in Wildcats: Tales of the Frontier* (Boston, 1936). Ruggedly appropriate drawings by James Daugherty help to picture such frontier characters—some real and some mythical—as Mike Fink, Johnny Appleseed, Kit Carson, and Paul Bunyan.

Steamboating on the Mississippi is the central theme of numerous articles published in the annual magazine of the Streckfus Line, the *Scenic Water Way*. "Early Steamboat Days in the Twin Cities" are described by Robert B. La Rock in the issue for 1935-36, and an account of the route of the "President," which makes its summer headquarters at St. Paul, appears in the 1936-37 number. Another interesting item in the latter issue is a pictorial record of "River Craft from the Earliest Times." A useful survey of the "Official Status of the Upper Mississippi Lock and Dam Project" from the Twin Cities to Alton, Illinois, appears in the number for 1935-36.

Edgar A. Custer's *No Royal Road* (New York, 1937) is the autobiography of a man who played a part in the development of the American railroad industry during the period of its expansion after the Civil War. Custer was born in Altoona, Pennsylvania, just at the outbreak of the war. At the age of seventeen he began a period of apprenticeship in the Altoona shops of the Pennsylvania Railroad, and he later entered the employ of the Baldwin Locomotive Works at Philadelphia. For the latter concern he traveled about the United States testing locomotives that the Baldwin shops designed and manufactured. This work took him to Minnesota in the early nineties. An account of several weeks that Custer spent in the lumbering and railroad town of Brainerd is included in his reminiscences (p. 185-194).

A.J.L.

Under the title "Recreating Pioneer Days," Iduna Bertel Field describes the Norwegian-American Historical Museum, which is located at Decorah, Iowa, in the autumn number of the *American-Scandinavian Review*. Its primary purpose, according to the writer, is the preservation of "everything that reflects the history, life, and environment of the Norwegian pioneers in this country." She suggests that "If groups representing the early settlers from other countries would do as the builders of the Norwegian-American Historical Museum have done, the result would be a well-rounded visual history

of the United States valuable to the scholar and full of human appeal."

German settlements in Minnesota at Hamburg in Carver County, New Ulm, St. Paul, Minneapolis, St. Cloud, Fergus Falls, and Duluth are mentioned by Max Hannemann in a study of *Das Deutschtum in den Vereinigten Staaten: Seine Verbreitung und Entwicklung seit der Mitte des 19. Jahrhunderts* (Gotha, 1936). The progress of German settlement in Minnesota and other states of the Union is graphically illustrated in a series of maps.

One scarcely expects to find historical material of special Minnesota interest in the biography of a Mississippi governor and senator active in the period before the Civil War, but there are several interesting Minnesota items in Professor James B. Ranck's new biography of *Albert Gallatin Brown: Radical Southern Nationalist* (New York, D. Appleton-Century Company, 1937). Brown was a member of the United States Senate when the question of the admission of Minnesota to the Union came up. Opposing the clause in the proposed Minnesota constitution which permitted aliens to vote, Senator Brown declared, "I know not whether we are here more under the influence of foreigners or Black Republicans." He was one of those who were responsible for the long delay in the admission of the North Star State. What he really wanted was the entrance of Kansas under the Lecompton constitution. If Kansas was excluded, Brown suggested, Republicans should exclude Minnesota to prove their good faith—and "there would be peace all over the country." Professor Ranck draws a lifelike portrait of this Southern politician in his scholarly and well-written book.

Miss Alma Hill Jamison's account of the "Cyclorama of the Battle of Atlanta," which appears in the July issue of the *Atlanta Historical Bulletin*, has a Minnesota interest because the huge canvas that she describes, or one like it, was displayed in Minneapolis in 1886. The cyclorama of which Miss Jamison writes is now on permanent display in Atlanta, but she cannot be certain that it was shown in Minneapolis since she has evidence that two copies of the great picture were prepared. Certain it is that both were painted in Milwaukee and that the same corps of artists worked on both. Contemporary newspaper accounts reveal that the picture presented in

Minneapolis was 380 feet long and 50 feet high and that it was displayed in a specially constructed circular building. Spectators stood on a "raised balcony in the center, with the painting stretched all around."

Life on a prairie farm in frontier Kansas of the late seventies is pictured by Howard Ruede in a series of letters which has been edited by John Ise and published by the Columbia University Press under the title *Sod-House Days: Letters from a Kansas Homesteader, 1877-78* (New York, 1937. 248 p.). The letters, according to the editor, "picture a community without the advantages of railroad service, where all farm products sold and all products bought . . . had to be freighted in lumber wagons fifty miles over the rough prairie trails," in a region that "had passed the stage of buffalo hunting and Indian fighting, and had settled down to the undramatic task of earning a living and perhaps a small fortune from the soil."

A valuable bibliography of *Indiana Imprints, 1804-1849*, by Douglas C. McMurtrie, has been issued by the Indiana Historical Society as volume 11, number 5, of its *Publications* (Indianapolis, 1937). Mr. McMurtrie declares that his list is a "supplement" to Mary A. Walker's monograph on the *Beginnings of Printing in the State of Indiana* (Crawfordsville, 1934), and he points out that he has included numerous items that were not mentioned in the earlier publication. He presents also a "list of printers, printing offices, and printing points which are 'not in Walker.'"

Readers of Mr. Flanagan's article in the present issue of this magazine may be interested to know that the centenary of the birth of Edward Eggleston is being marked this month in his native community, Vevay, Indiana. A local women's organization, the Julia L. Dumont Club, devoted a program to the life and work of the "Hoosier Schoolmaster" on December 3.

"Once-glorious Galena" is the subject of an interesting sketch by Esther E. Eby which appears in the *Journal* of the Illinois State Historical Society for July. The importance of the town on the Fever River in the development of Minnesota is indicated, for some mention is made of the steamboats that carried travelers, merchandise, and news between Galena and St. Paul, and the fact is noted that the completion of the railroad "brought a flood of emigrants bound for

Minnesota Territory." Among the illustrations is a view of Galena in 1856 after a lithograph by Edwin Whitefield.

An exhibit of books, maps, and manuscripts from the William L. Clements Library of the University of Michigan has been arranged to commemorate the sesquicentennial of the passage of the Ordinance of 1787 and the centennials of the admission of Michigan to the Union and of the establishment of the University of Michigan at Ann Arbor. Under the title *Michigan through Three Centuries*, the University of Michigan Press has issued an attractive descriptive catalogue of the items displayed (20 p.). Many of them relate to the general history of the Northwest and Minnesota as well as to Michigan.

The visit to Fort Snelling of Mrs. Elizabeth S. Hamilton, the widow of Alexander Hamilton, in the summer of 1837, when she was eighty years of age, is recalled in an article on "High Society in Pioneer Wisconsin," which appears in the June issue of the *Wisconsin Magazine of History*. Mrs. Hamilton went west to visit a son who resided in the Wisconsin lead region, and thence she made the voyage up the Mississippi on the steamboat "Burlington." On board she met George W. Featherstonhaugh, the explorer, who reported that "this lively old lady, now about eighty years old, told me that, knowing she might not have a long time to see things of this world in, she had determined to avail herself of the great facilities for traveling and pay a visit to her son; and having an inclination to see all she could, was determined to ascend the Mississippi to the St. Peter's." Her reception at the frontier fort, as described by a member of her party, must have been a royal one. In the "Colonel's barouche" she visited "Lake Calhoun, the Falls of Minnehaha and St. Anthony," and upon her return to the fort "Col. Campbell and the officers were in waiting at the entrance, and he offered Mrs. Hamilton his arm to conduct her through the parade ground. A carpet had been spread, an armchair ready to receive her. . . . After enjoying the military display for some time, the Colonel took his distinguished guest into the quarters where refreshments were prepared." Another item of Minnesota interest in the June issue of the *Wisconsin Magazine of History* is a group of "Sample Letters of Immigrants." Among them is one written at Fort Snelling in 1862, and another sent from Young America in 1873.

"One of the world's long-lost historical treasures apparently has been found!" With this remark Herbert E. Bolton prefaces his announcement, in a special number of the *Quarterly* of the California Historical Society, issued in March, 1937, of the finding of "Francis Drake's Plate of Brass" near San Rafael, California, in the summer of 1936. The importance of the discovery and the nature of the plate did not become apparent until the finder took it to Professor Bolton in February, 1937. It has since become the property of the University of California. Professor Bolton considers the authenticity of the tablet "beyond all reasonable doubt," and he looks upon its discovery as "one of the most sensational in all California history."

Many of the "Stories of Roberts County" that have been appearing during the summer and fall in the *Sisseton* [South Dakota] *Courier* are from the pen of Mr. H. S. Morris, a grandson of the Minnesota missionary, Stephen R. Riggs. Legends of the Sioux, with whom the writer has been intimately associated during his entire life, are included, as are numerous stories of frontier life both in southwestern Minnesota and eastern Dakota.

The first installment of "Sources and Documents" relating to "Mennonite Immigration into Manitoba" in 1872 and 1873 is presented by Ernst Correll in the *Mennonite Quarterly Review* for July. In his introduction Mr. Correll reports that he found a "remarkably complete collection of various records on the movement in the early 1870's of the Mennonites from Russia into Canada" in the Public Archives of Canada. "Here and there," he writes, "the archives reveal the concern of the Canadian Government as it is forced to face the competition of appeals made to prospective European emigrants by more experienced land agents from the United States." He found, however, one letter from a settler in Manitoba who believed that his province was "destined to be the keynote to successful emigration to Canada as Ohio, Iowa and Minnesota were in turn for the U.S.A."

RECENT EXCAVATIONS AT GRAND PORTAGE

A second season of field work on the site of the Northwest Company's post at Grand Portage has been brought to a conclusion. This investigation was conducted by workers engaged in a project of the

United States Indian Service under the supervision of the Minnesota Historical Society, as a continuation of work begun last year by the same agencies (see *ante*, 17:461). It is proposed to learn as much as the ground will tell of the plan of the post and the method of its construction and then to reconstruct the stockade with its gates and blockhouses and two of the buildings. One of the latter will house the large collection of materials found in the course of the excavations and other objects illustrative of life at old Grand Portage.

Some of the more interesting and significant results of the recent work are the discovery of the remains of the foundations of the main hall and of the complete or partial outlines of four other buildings, one of which may very well have been the residence of the superintendent. A well or cistern that was unearthed and dug out was found to be slightly more than eleven feet deep. It contained a considerable quantity of wood remains, including handmade barrel staves, parts of a wooden paintpot, a fragment of shingle, and, at the very bottom, a shard of dishware. Elsewhere on the site large quantities of occupational debris and trade articles were collected, among them pieces of clay pipes, handmade locks and hinges, which may serve as patterns for the hardware of the buildings to be reconstructed, the mechanism of a flintlock gun bearing the word "London" stamped in uneven letters, flints for guns, handmade nails, window and bottle glass, firesteels, fragments of copper utensils, trade knives, beads, and the like. Pieces of Indian origin were few in number, and were limited to such articles as implements used in working hides and fragments of stone pipes.

In certain sections of the enclosure ample evidence of the occupation of the site after the removal of the Northwest Company's post has been found. Some may date from the time of the American Fur Company's occupation; the remainder are from that period to the present. No indications of occupation earlier than that of the Northwest Company have been found or recognized on this specific area, and no cultural debris identifiable as French has been found. It is possible that British traders who worked there before 1785, as well as earlier French traders, built their posts east of Grand Portage Creek, almost anywhere on the long, flat field back of the shoreline of Grand Portage Bay.

It is hoped that in the summer of 1938 the stockade with gates and blockhouses and a building typical of the trading posts of the late

eighteenth century will be reconstructed at Grand Portage, and that visitors will be able to see them by fall. Students of history will follow further developments with interest, since this was once the most important trading post in what is now Minnesota.

RALPH D. BROWN

GENERAL MINNESOTA ITEMS

A survey of *General Legislation concerning Counties in Minnesota* has been published in mimeographed form as an introduction to the *Inventory of the County Archives of Minnesota* by the historical records survey of the WPA (St. Paul, 1937. 31 p.). In a preface to the booklet, Mr. Jacob Hodnefield, state director of the survey, announces that it will be followed by a "series of county archives inventories, one number for each county." Sections on the "Establishment and Government of Counties" in Minnesota and on "Records and Record Keeping" are followed in the present pamphlet by analyses of laws establishing various county offices, boards, courts, and functions.

More than a hundred acres of land in southwestern Minnesota were set aside as the Pipestone National Monument by an act of Congress approved on August 25. "An area unique in historical, ethnological, and geological interest" is thus brought under the administration of the National Park Service. It includes the famous pipestone quarry where the Indians from time immemorial obtained the red stone for their pipes. After the discovery of the quarry by the artist-explorer, George Catlin, in 1836, the stone, which is found only in the general area of the monument, was given the name of catlinite. An interesting provision of the act establishing the monument reserves to "Indians of all tribes" the right to quarry the red pipestone.

An interesting account, by Viola Ventura, of the work of restoration and excavation that is being conducted at Fort Ridgely appears in the *St. Paul Daily News* for September 17 (see *ante*, p. 328). With the article is a plan of the original fort. Pictures of the excavations, of buildings that are being restored, and of the fort cemetery appear in another section of the paper. An account of the excavations appears also in the *New Ulm Review* for September 20.

"The pattern of Minnesota's history from its earliest days . . . can be traced through the road markers that dot the state's highways and byways to commemorate historic spots and events." This announcement is made in an article on state highway markers appearing in *Fisher's Marvelous Minnesota Manual* for 1937, a publication which purports to be "A Complete Guide to the Land of Ten Thousand Lakes." "All of these markers are authentic," the article continues. "The history they represent has been studied and verified by the Minnesota Historical Society. And the markers have been erected on the highways by the State Highway department as close to the actual scene as possible." Among the markers noted are those designating the sites of fur trading posts of the French and British periods, of Sioux War battles, of ghost towns, of railroad colonies, and of pioneer settlements. Historic sites and highway markers are discussed also in an article by Willoughby M. Babcock, curator of the museum of the historical society, which appears under the title "Hunting History by Automobile."

The first prize in the Donald E. Bridgman essay contest in history and political science conducted at Hamline University in 1937 was awarded to Helen McCann, whose subject was "James Evans, Missionary to the Indians." Evans worked chiefly among the Cree of western Canada and he originated the "syllabic system still used by the Indians." Miss McCann's essay is based in large part upon copies of Evans' diaries and other source materials in the possession of the Minnesota Historical Society. For an essay on "Pioneering in Minnesota," Lorraine Blake was awarded the second prize in the contest. First prize in economics went to John Johnson, who wrote on the "Highways of Minnesota." His essay and that by Miss McCann appear in the May issue of the *Hamline Piper*.

A history of the Farmer-Labor party in Minnesota by Congressman Henry G. Teigan is reprinted from the appendix of the *Congressional Record* for September 7 in recent issues of the *Minnesota Leader*. The first installment, in which the author traces the origin of the Minnesota party to the Nonpartisan League of North Dakota, appears in the issue for September 18.

The early "History of Medical Education in Minnesota" is reviewed briefly by Dr. Franklin R. Wright in the September issue of

the *Journal-Lancet*. Medical schools established in St. Paul in 1871 and in Minneapolis in 1881, according to Dr. Wright, "gave up their charters and joined to form the University Medical School" in 1888. He relates that in Minneapolis, the "Minnesota Hospital College was one of the first schools in America to require any microscopic laboratory work."

Followers of the Trail: A Pageant of Early Minnesota, written and produced by the historical committee of the woman's union of the St. Anthony Park Congregational Church of St. Paul on the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary, has been published in pamphlet form (1937. 32 p.). In the earlier episodes the arrival and activities of the Pond brothers are depicted; later episodes relate to the beginnings of the St. Anthony Park community, to the founding of the Congregational church there, and to its growth and progress.

A bibliography, by Margaret Briggs, of books and articles published from 1920 to 1935 on the subject of the *Mesabi Iron Range* has been published in mimeographed form by the division of library instruction of the University of Minnesota as number 4 of its *Bibliographical Projects* (1937. 37 p.). The compiler has aimed "to cover those subjects pertaining directly to the mining industry and so nothing on schools, immigration, or social conditions generally has been included." She does, however, devote sections to "Biography," to "Description, exploration, history," and to "Range towns." Miss Briggs's list is intended to supplement earlier bibliographies published in 1915 and 1920.

Reports on *Consumers' Cooperation in Minnesota* and on *Co-operative Trucking Associations in Minnesota* have been prepared by workers engaged in a WPA project under the supervision of Russel Lewis and published in mimeographed form by the Minnesota department of agriculture, dairy and foods (1937. 117, 24 p.). The same project is responsible for a report on the origin and development of *Credit Unions in Minnesota* (1937. 127 p.). Included is a brief history of the movement, in which it is revealed that in the decade from 1926 to 1936 the number of credit unions in Minnesota increased from 6 to 225, and the membership, from 938 to 41,874.

The seventy-fifth anniversary of the Sioux Outbreak was marked at New Ulm by a great community celebration from August 18 to 22.

It was estimated that sixty-five thousand people gathered in the Minnesota Valley city for the final day of the festivities. The history of the outbreak was reviewed by Mr. Fred Johnson, president of the Brown County Historical Society, in an address presented on August 19; and numerous articles of historical interest appeared in the local press. Special illustrated sections devoted to the history of the community and events connected with the Sioux War were issued with the *New Ulm Daily Journal* of August 2 and the *New Ulm Review* of August 19. The *Journal* published also, in its issue for August 18, a pictorial map of the outbreak. Many newspapers of other communities, particularly in southern Minnesota, devoted much space to the history of the massacre and to reminiscent narratives of survivors. Accounts of the battles of Redwood Ferry and Birch Cooley, for example, appear in the *Redwood Gazette* of Redwood Falls for August 12 and September 2; the story of the Manannah massacre is retold in the *Meeker County News* of Litchfield for September 2; the experiences of O. L. Barnes, whose family lived in Carver County in 1862, are described in the *Mankato Free Press* for August 16; and the story of the Lake Shetek massacre is reviewed in the *Tracy Headlight-Herald* for August 20. The value of all this newspaper publicity is emphasized in an editorial on "Local History" which appears in the *New Ulm Review* for August 23. "If it were not for occasional historical anniversaries how much would the average man know about the history of his state and community?" asks the editor. He points out that "Some schools teach a certain amount of Minnesota history, but it is sketchy at best," and he suggests the possibility of including "some local history in the high school, if not the grade school courses" at New Ulm.

Some incidents in the career of James W. Lynd, a victim of the Sioux War of 1862, are described by George G. Allanson in the *Henderson Independent* for August 6. Lynd's trading activities are mentioned, but his services as a newspaper editor, a political leader, and a student of Indian life are emphasized. Comments on his political activities during a campaign for a seat in the state senate in 1860 are quoted from a number of Minnesota Valley newspapers. At the time of his death, Lynd had ready for publication a work of five hundred pages on the "Dakota Tribes of the Northwest." A prospectus of this book from a contemporary newspaper is quoted by Mr. Allan-

son. Unfortunately, the bulk of the manuscript was destroyed during the outbreak.

The fiftieth anniversary number of the *Prison Mirror*, a publication of the Minnesota State Prison at Stillwater, appeared on July 15. It contains a detailed history of the paper, based largely upon a complete file in the possession of the prison. The *Mirror* is said to have originated in 1887, when fifteen inmates, including the Younger brothers, pooled two hundred dollars to start a paper. "Their investment was paid back into their personal accounts, plus 3% interest." Eventually the paper became the property of the prison library.

In a little book entitled *Busy Years*, Edward W. Decker records the story of his experiences as a Mower County farmer's son, a resident of Minneapolis, and an official of the Northwestern National Bank of Minneapolis (95 p.). The first section includes an account of the migration of the author's parents from New Jersey to Minnesota, where they settled on a farm near Austin in the spring of 1856.

A sketch and a portrait of Dr. William W. Folwell appear in a genealogical work entitled *Collections for a History of the Ancient Family of McMath* by Frank M. McMath (Memphis, 1937). Dr. Folwell's maternal grandmother was Elizabeth McMath.

The names of many Minnesotans are included in a recently published genealogy of the *Descendants of Andrew Hyde of Lenox, Massachusetts* by Edith Drake Hyde (1937. 58 p.). The author is a resident of Minneapolis.

LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

Judge William E. Scott of Two Harbors, Miss Deloris Carey of Duluth, E. P. J. Chapman of Grand Marais, and Otto E. Wieland of Duluth were among the speakers who addressed the ninth annual North Shore Historical Assembly, which met in Duluth on September 4. The assembly is made up of members of the Cook, Lake, and St. Louis county historical societies. Judge Scott suggested that a small "unnamed lake which is the true source of the St. Louis river be designated Lake Culkin" in honor of Mr. William E. Culkin, who has served as president of the St. Louis County Historical So-

ciety since its organization in 1922. A committee was named to bring the matter before the Minnesota geographic board, which acted favorably upon the suggestion on September 20.

The history of Elm Creek, a small stream that enters the Mississippi near Champlin, was reviewed by Dr. Scipio Bond in a paper presented at a meeting of the Anoka County Historical Society on September 13. In the absence of the author, the paper was read by Mrs. Lynn French. It is published in the *Anoka Herald* for September 22.

A "Chippewa grand medicine scroll" was among the objects displayed by the Becker County Historical Society at the county fair early in August. In addition to Indian objects, both Sioux and Chippewa, many items that Scandinavian pioneers brought to Becker County were included in the exhibit, which is described by Arthur P. Foster in the *Detroit Lakes Tribune* for August 19.

During the celebration at New Ulm of the seventy-fifth anniversary of the Sioux Outbreak, hundreds of visitors viewed the exhibits of the Brown County Historical Society in the local library, according to an announcement in the *New Ulm Daily Journal* for August 23. A special display of photographs of events and people connected with the story of the outbreak was arranged by Mr. Fred W. Johnson, president of the society.

The work of the Chippewa County Historical Society was explained by its secretary, Mrs. L. N. Pierce of Montevideo, at a meeting of the Milan Parent-Teacher Association on September 27. She described the exhibits in the society's museum and announced that more than five hundred visitors had been recorded during the past summer. A trip by covered wagon from La Crosse to Chippewa County in the early seventies was described by Miss Edwina Gould.

A recent addition to the museum collection of the Clay County Historical Society is a cannon used in the seventies on the Red River steamboat "Selkirk" to announce its arrival as it approached a landing. The history of the cannon, which is said to have been brought into the Northwest by the Hudson's Bay Company, is outlined in the *Moorhead Daily News* for July 22.

About seventy-five members of the Cook County and Thunder Bay historical societies assembled at Grand Portage for a joint meeting on September 19. Mr. Ralph D. Brown described the recent discoveries on the site of the Northwest Company post and guided the visitors over the area under excavation.

A program of talks and addresses was presented at the seventh annual picnic of the Crow Wing County Historical Society, which was held at Round Lake on July 11. Among the speakers were Mr. John Morrison of Onigum, who displayed and explained a collection of objects used by a member of the grand medicine lodge of the Chipewewa; and Captain E. B. Miller, who reviewed the story of Fort Ripley.

At a meeting of the Koochiching County Historical Society held at Big Falls on August 11, Mr. V. T. Byman told of his activities in excavating Indian mounds in northern Minnesota and displayed some of the objects found in mounds. Special attention was given to an unusually large mound at Laurel, and plans for marking the site of this mound were made.

"Highways and History" was the subject of a paper presented by Willoughby M. Babcock, curator of the museum of the Minnesota Historical Society, at the summer meeting of the Marshall County Historical Society, which was held near Stephen on September 19. More than two thousand people attended. Mrs. H. I. Yetter spoke on early days at Stephen, and Mr. P. A. McClernan of Grand Forks reviewed the story of the fur trade in the Red River Valley. Mr. Babcock's paper appears in two installments in the *Warren Sheaf* for September 22 and 29.

Residents of Martin County who have lived in log cabins or sod houses were honored at a meeting of the Martin County Historical Society held at Truman on August 29. Sketches of pioneers and descriptions of their early homes appear in the issues of the *Fairmont Daily Sentinel* from August 3 to 28. Many of the accounts are illustrated with excellent pictures of crude frontier houses. A pretentious home built at Fairmont by Percy Wolleston in 1876 is described in the issue for August 7. A list of "168 log cabiners" appears in the *Sentinel* for August 28. Among the speakers participating in the program at Truman, which was heard by more than three thousand

people, were Mrs. Liva Dodge, who reviewed the history of the village, and Mrs. Nora Conklin, who outlined the story of Nashville Township. Their papers appear in the issues of the *Truman Tribune* for September 2 and 9. An account of pioneer experiences in Westford Township, presented by Norman T. True, appears in the *Fairmont Daily Sentinel* for August 30.

At a meeting of the Nobles County Historical Society held at Worthington on August 15, the following officers were elected: C. R. Saxon of Indian Lake, vice president; Julia Hyland of Worthington, secretary; and Frank Morgan of Worthington, treasurer. Mr. A. L. Wells of Brewster continues to serve as president.

A number of letters written by Mr. Vernon A. Wright while on a surveying trip in western Minnesota in the summer of 1881 have been presented by Mr. Elmer E. Adams to the Otter Tail County Historical Society, according to an announcement in the *Fergus Falls Daily Journal* for September 21. Extracts from the letters are included in the report, which was prepared by E. T. Barnard, curator of the society's museum.

Mr. Avery F. Haney was elected president of the Pipestone County Historical Society at a meeting held at Pipestone on September 6. Other officers elected at the same meeting were J. W. Pierce, secretary, J. E. Morgan, treasurer, and Marion Farmer, historian. Among the speakers participating in the program were Senator J. V. Weber of Slayton and C. J. Crowley.

At a meeting of the St. Louis County Historical Society held at Hermantown on July 29, "Recollections of the Swan Lake Road and Other Roads" were presented by T. H. Merritt, "Minnesota State and Minnesota Arrowhead Guides" were described by Fern Brooks, "Nationalities in St. Louis County" were discussed by Vaino Konga, and the "Hinterland of Duluth" was described by William E. Culkin.

LOCAL HISTORY ITEMS

A Norwegian colony in Blue Earth County that had its origin in 1856 when two families from Keokuk, Iowa, settled on the shores of Jackson Lake is the subject of an interesting historical sketch in the *Blue Earth County Enterprise* of Mapleton for August 13. The

three Lutheran church congregations that were established as time went on to serve the needs of the growing settlement are the chief concern of the writer. He relates that in the early sixties the Reverend B. J. Muus visited the colony as a missionary and supplied the settlers with a congregational constitution, which was adopted in May, 1862, when the Jackson Lake Lutheran Church was organized.

The New Ulm Battery, which was organized after the Sioux Outbreak of 1862 by a group of citizens who "resolved never to be caught again unprotected," is the subject of an article by Mayor Albert D. Flor of New Ulm in the *New Ulm Review* for July 29. The forty-two charter members of the battery and those who have served as its officers from 1862 to the present are named. Some additional information about the battery appears in the *Review* for August 23. A sketch of Christian Prignitz, the surveyor who drew the plat of New Ulm in 1858 and whose plan is responsible for many of the city's present features, appears in the *Review* for September 2.

The sixty-fifth anniversary of the founding of Norwood is the occasion for the publication of an article on its early history by Ernest Meyer in the *Norwood Times* for July 2. A local business firm established by August Hartelt as a blacksmith shop in 1872 is the subject of another article in the *Times*.

That the Chippewa County Fair had its origin in 1898, when "some 20 acres of land was purchased and the Chippewa County Driving Park and Fair association was formally launched," is revealed by Carl G. Engstrom, secretary of the present fair, in the *Montevideo American* for September 10. He asserts that the early fairs were little more than driving meets arranged by members of the Montevideo driving club. After a few years corn and grain were displayed, and in 1907 a grandstand was built.

An incomplete file for the years 1871 to 1874 of a handwritten paper issued at Montevideo and known as the *Valley Ventilator* forms the basis for a series of articles which appear in the *Montevideo News* from July 30 to September 24. In addition to literary contributions, the paper included local news notes on such subjects as roads, ferries, mail service, bridges, current prices, social activities, and the lyceum, and it gave enthusiastic support to the temperance movement.

The story of 4-H Club work in Clearwater County since the organization of the first clubs in 1922 is reviewed in the *Farmers' Independent* of Bagley for August 19. In the same issue appear several articles about agricultural fairs in the county. The premium lists issued each year since 1907 by the Clearwater County Agricultural Society are described, and the history of the organization is outlined. The latter narrative is based upon the minutes of the society, which begin with the first annual meeting, held on February 15, 1907.

The issue of the *Brainerd Tribune* for September 9 is a sixty-fifth anniversary number, commemorating the establishment of the paper by Morris C. Russell on February 10, 1872. A survey of the history of the paper reveals that the first issue was "printed at the St. Cloud Journal office, and expressed to Brainerd where it was eagerly received by a crowd of men who met the stage. . . . Its three hundred copies were sold immediately."

Some photographs of "Old Mills of Southern Minnesota" are reproduced with a brief note about Mr. O. C. F. Sorenson, the miller who operated them, in the *Northwestern Miller* for August 4. One picture shows a windmill sixty feet in diameter that was used at Claremont in the early seventies; the others are interior and exterior views of a mill at Rockton which was built in 1869 and operated until 1894. "Some of the stone buhrs from Rockton are still used" in a mill later established by Mr. Sorenson at Kasson.

A brief history of the *Alexandria Citizen-News* appears in its issue for September 23, which marks the seventieth anniversary of the founding of the paper. Its origin is traced to the first Douglas County newspaper, the *Alexandria Post*, which was established by William E. Hicks in 1868.

The history of the Preston band is traced back to the early nineties in an article published in the *Preston Republican* for August 19. The directors of the organization are named and the methods by which it has been financed are described.

A log cabin built by Ole Gulbrandson near Gordonsville in 1853 is described as the "first human habitation erected by a white man in Freeborn County" in the *Glenville Progress* for September 30. A picture of the structure, which now stands on the fair grounds at Albert Lea, accompanies the article.

The part played in community life by the Red Wing Fire Department during eighty years is described by C. A. Rasmussen in the *Red Wing Daily Republican* for July 28. The author records that the "Protection Hook and Ladder company organized in 1857" was the first Red Wing fire department, and that its equipment consisted "only of a few ladders and buckets carried on a wagon of crude construction." In the seventies, writes Mr. Rasmussen, "it was considered a special distinction" to be a member of the fire department. "The organization was prominent in a social way and powerful in city politics."

That "Franklin Steele's Arrival 100 Years Ago Started Events Leading to Founding of City" of Minneapolis is the theme of an article by B. W. Phillips which appears in the *Minneapolis Journal* for August 15. Steele is described as the "true founder of Minneapolis, its pioneer builder, and for many years its leading citizen" and the "state's first 'big business' man." His business activities are emphasized throughout the article—his services as sutler at Fort Snelling, his milling activities on the St. Croix and at the Falls of St. Anthony, his pioneer staking of a claim at the falls, his building of a suspension bridge across the Mississippi, and his ownership of huge tracts of Minnesota lands. A view of St. Anthony in 1851 and a picture of the sutler's store at Fort Snelling are among the illustrations that accompany the article.

Some "Reminiscences of the Minneapolis Mill Explosion of 1878," as told by James Pye to Charles H. Briggs, appear in the *Northwestern Miller* for September 22 under the title "The Message of a Ghost that Exploded." Mr. Pye, who was a student at the University of Minnesota when the explosion occurred, made a special study of its causes, and he designed the machinery for some of the mills that were rebuilt.

The history of the Metropolitan Theater of Minneapolis, which was demolished recently, is the subject of a series of feature articles by Earl N. Pomeroy, the first of which appears in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for September 5. Among the subjects touched upon are the building of the theater in 1893, the opening performance in March, 1894, some of the stars of the past who appeared on the Metropolitan stage, plays that were popular in the middle nineties, and some early

operatic performances. Each article is elaborately illustrated, and additional pictorial records of the Minneapolis theater appear in the rotogravure sections.

Installments of a history of Akeley, Badoura, and White Oak townships in the eastern part of Hubbard County are contributed by J. H. Nixon to the *Hubbard County Herald Tribune* of Akeley for June 24, and July 1, 8, and 22. The writer, who "first saw this part of the county in May, 1896, and has been intimately connected with the development of this section ever since," passes rapidly over the period of exploration to deal with the development of lumbering, the beginnings of settlement, the building of roads, the establishment of schools, and the like. The early history of the village of Akeley also receives some attention.

The forgotten railroad village of Caroline on the old Winona and St. Peter Railroad between Mankato and Kasota is the subject of an article in the *Mankato Free Press* for July 10. The recent removal of the railroad tracks and of the signal tower — the last indications of the village site — are noted. A picture of the tower accompanies the article.

A brief historical sketch of the Icelandic Lutheran congregations in Lyon and Lincoln counties in the vicinity of Minneota appears in the *Minneota Mascot* for August 27. The writer, the Reverend G. Guttormsson, asserts that the Icelandic settlers in the neighborhood "began to work toward organizing a parish in the fall of 1878, just three years after the first of them had taken his homestead in Lyon county." The first services were held in 1879 and the first permanent pastor took charge of the parish in 1887. Early religious influences and experiences at Westerheim are recalled by Mrs. J. A. Josefson in the same issue of the *Mascot*.

A History of Lester Prairie and Community by Emil C. Ernst and Gerald Litschke has been published by the *Lester Prairie News* in commemoration of the golden jubilee of the village, which was celebrated on July 17 and 18 (1937. 73 p.). Although the village was not platted until 1886, settlement began on the site as early as 1856. The authors relate that the first settlers were Mr. and Mrs. John Lester, for whom the village is named. They present brief accounts also of the arrival in the vicinity in the late fifties of groups of Ger-

man Protestant, German Catholic, Norwegian, French, and Austrian settlers. The building of railroads, the incorporation of the village, the establishment of schools and churches, the development of agriculture and industries, the building of roads, and many other subjects are touched upon.

A brief history of the village of White Earth on the White Earth Indian reservation appears in the *Mahnomen Pioneer* for August 20. The building of schools, churches, a government blacksmith and carpenter shop, a store, hotels, and other structures after the Indians were removed from Gull Lake in 1868 and the later development of the community are described.

The history of the Middle River Co-operative Creamery, which was established in 1907, is reviewed by its secretary, E. W. Evans, in the *Marshall County Star* of Warren for July 1. Some of the background of the Marshall County community and a brief account of its settlement in the eighties and nineties are given, and the establishment of co-operative creameries in neighboring towns, such as Thief River Falls, is noted.

A history of the Austin Floral Club, presented at a recent meeting of the organization by Mrs. J. E. Detwiler, is published in full in the *Austin Daily Herald* for September 18. She revealed that the club was organized in 1869 by a group of pioneer women who wished to study floriculture, beautify their home community, and establish a circulating library. Before the end of the year, the library was opened with 225 volumes on its shelves. The club supported and maintained the Austin library until it was taken over by a Carnegie library early in the present century. The Austin Floral Club is said to be the "oldest women's club in the state, and one of the oldest in the United States."

Bits of news gleaned from early newspaper files are used as points of departure for descriptions of events in the history of Austin which occupy an entire page of the Saturday issues of the *Austin Daily Herald* from July 10 to September 11. The erection of new buildings, sports, social activities, the careers of local celebrities, the burning of the schoolhouse in 1890, and the growth of local industries are among the subjects touched upon. The origin and development of Austin's chief industry, the Hormel packing plant, is featured in sev-

eral issues. On July 10, for example, several items are included relating to the meat market opened in 1887 by George A. Hormel and Anton Friedrich. An outline of the early history of the plant that grew out of the partnership follows. More information about its growth appears in the issues for August 7, 14, 21, and September 4 and 11.

A recent visit to Lake Wilson of J. W. Brangdon of Portland, Maine, is the occasion for the publication of an article about his part in the founding of the community in the *Lake Wilson Pilot* for September 23. The village was established in 1883 by J. E. Wilson of Chicago, who purchased a large tract of land in the vicinity, and Mr. Brangdon was sent to Murray County to manage the project. He recalled that a model village was planned and built.

A store at West Newton, in Nicollet County near New Ulm, which has been closed since the death of its owner, A. Harkin, in 1898, is described by Warren L. Hullinger in the *New Ulm Daily Journal* for August 20. Not only the original building, but the stock on the shelves and the books and other papers in the safe have been kept intact by the present owner, Mr. Rudolph Massopust, on whose farm the old store is located. It contains a veritable museum collection of dry goods, drugs, farm implements, and groceries available to the customers of a country store of the nineties. Several views of the interior and the exterior of the store illustrate the article.

New light on the beginnings of the National Colony, which was established in Nobles County in the early seventies, is afforded in a letter published in the *Worthington Globe* for August 12. The writer, the Reverend B. H. Crever of Bloomsburg, Pennsylvania, visited the newly founded colony, probably in November, 1872, and recorded his impressions for the *Colony Journal*, a newspaper published at Toledo, Ohio, for the National Colony. His letter is reprinted in the *Globe* from an issue of the *Journal* in the possession of Mr. J. E. Moberg of Worthington. Upon arriving at Worthington, Crever found "a hundred and fifty men busily engaged, the greater part of whom were in the employ of the railroad company." He expressed the hope that the town that was being rapidly built would "be equal to the beauty of the location." A portrait of Crever appears with his letter.

The value of baptismal records in the study of local history is brought out in an article in the *Brooten Review* for August 19, which calls attention to the records of a pioneer Pope County congregation of the Norwegian Lutheran church. The earliest baptisms recorded are those of May 7, 1865, and these are presented in the *Review*. They give not only the names of the children baptized, but those of their parents and of the sponsors, and they mention the owners of the homes on Lake Johanna in which the ceremonies were conducted. The record was kept by the Reverend Peter S. Reque, a pioneer missionary pastor.

The museum collection that is being assembled in the St. Paul post office is described in the *St. Paul Daily News* for September 17. "The museum had its inception in a remark by Postmaster General James Farley during a visit to St. Paul," according to this article. "He expressed the belief that every first-class postoffice should have some means of preserving its history." Furniture from former post offices, cash books, city directories, and pictures are among the items now on display. Another special museum collection of historical interest to be seen in St. Paul is the subject of an illustrated article in the *News* for September 23. It consists of objects and pictures reminiscent of the past of the Chicago and Northwestern, or Omaha, railroad, which are displayed in its general offices.

A bill designating the site of the Joseph R. Brown home in Renville County as a state park was passed by the state legislature and approved on July 23. An appropriation "for the purpose of reconstructing, repairing and improving the buildings and grounds" is included. The tract of about three acres will be known as the Joseph R. Brown Memorial Park.

A detailed report by Edward W. Schmidt on recent excavations of "Lowland Mounds of Northfield Area" appears in installments in the *Northfield Independent* from July 1 to September 9. The excavations were made in 1935 and 1936 under Professor Schmidt's direction by students receiving federal aid. An earlier description of these mounds by the same author appears under the title "A Group of Minnesota Lowland Mounds," *ante*, 16:306-312.

A sketch of Dr. Thomas Foster, pioneer Minnesota journalist who established the first Duluth newspaper in 1869, appears with three

interesting portraits in the *Duluth News-Tribune* for July 4. Special attention is given to a speech delivered by Dr. Foster on July 4, 1868, in which he is said to have made the first use of the phrase, "Zenith City of the Unsalted Seas." Another chapter in the newspaper history of Duluth, the establishment of the *Tribune* by Robert C. Mitchell in May, 1870, is set forth in the *Duluth Herald* for September 14. Mitchell is said to have removed his paper and his equipment from Superior to Duluth on the advice of Jay Cooke. Thus was established in Duluth the "first of the newspapers which today are united in the Duluth Herald and News-Tribune."

Members of St. Louis County 4-H clubs participated in a pageant depicting episodes in the history of the county, presented at Lake Eshquaguma on July 31. Among the scenes represented were an Indian village, the crossing of a portage by a group of fur traders, a log drive, and the discovery of iron ore in Minnesota.

A rare Duluth newspaper of the early eighties, the *Daily Bee*, is the subject of a brief article in the *Duluth News-Tribune* for July 1. Several copies of the *Bee*, published in 1882, recently were brought into the office of the *News-Tribune* by Mr. Harold Fowler of Minneapolis. One issue is pictured with the article.

The opening of the Chandler mine near Ely in 1886 is recalled by Cyrille Fortier in an interview published in the *Ely Miner* for September 9. Mr. Fortier was one of a party of six who went out from Tower to cut timber and open the mine. Early labor troubles among miners in the vicinity of Hibbing are described in the *Duluth News-Tribune* for July 11. A strike of steam shovel operators in 1907 is given special attention.

The story of the "First Ten Years of St. John's" abbey and university is outlined by Aloysius Michels in the *St. John's Quarterly* for January, 1937. The founding of the abbey in 1856 by five monks from Pennsylvania was, according to the writer, a "typical Benedictine adventure, for Minnesota, at least in the St. Cloud territory, was then primeval forest, dotted here and there with a river town and a trading place." A description of the college established by these monks is quoted from an account prepared by one of the first students, Anthony Edelbrock.

Some records of the common council of the village of Morris for the late seventies and early eighties, recently discovered in a local bank building, are described in the *Morris Tribune* for September 10. Minutes of meetings, ordinances, and financial records are included. Among the ordinances is one which forbids any person "to ride or drive any horse, mule or other animal at a speed greater than six miles per hour within the fire limits of the village."

The recent visit to Long Prairie of William Decora, a Winnebago Indian who was born in 1849 while members of his tribe were living on a reservation at that place, is recorded in the *Long Prairie Leader* for September 2. An account of the movements of the Winnebago both before and after their residence in Minnesota and some information about the position of Mr. Decora's family in the tribe are presented by Mr. O. B. DeLaurier.

A golden jubilee celebration, commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the organization of the village, was held at Wheaton on July 9 and 10. A brief review of the history of the village, in the *Wheaton Gazette* for July 2, includes some information about exploration and the fur trade in western Minnesota, about the early activities of the village council, and about business houses of the eighties. Some of the material presented is drawn from the minute book of the council for 1887.

Views of lumber camps, pictures of lumberjacks, and photographs of log jams on the St. Croix are among the illustrations appearing in a supplement to the *Stillwater Post-Messenger* for September 23. The booklet (12 p.) was issued to commemorate the lumberjack celebration held in Stillwater on September 23.

The origins of Wilkin County place names are explained by the Honorable Julius Schmahl in an article published in the *Gazette Telegram* of Breckenridge for July 22. A sketch of Colonel Alexander Wilkin, for whom the county is named, is included.



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