

REVIEWS OF BOOKS

Illinois on the Eve of the Seven Years' War, 1747-1755 (*Illinois Historical Collections*, vol. 29; *French Series*, vol. 3). Edited with introduction and notes by THEODORE CALVIN PEASE and ERNESTINE JENISON. (Springfield, Illinois State Historical Library, 1940. lii, 977 p. \$2.50.)

This hefty volume of documents, arranged chronologically and divided into chapters with more or less appropriate titles, tells the story of the Illinois country from the close of King George's War to the opening of the Seven Years' War. From beginning to end, it is a tale of desperation. The arch of the French empire in America was breaking, for the French could not hope to hold their position in the interior of the continent without the support of the Indians, and these people were going over to the English, from whom they could get much more for their furs. French officials saw the naked economic truth and occasionally recorded it, but they commonly interpreted the fatal shift in terms of native treachery and wicked English guile. How could they retain the faithful and recover the faithless red men? They tried to do it by fomenting attacks of the former upon the latter, but this method failed miserably. The weapon would not go off, or it backfired, when aimed at Indians. It was also aimed past them, at the white men who were seducing the children of the forest; but English traders were plundered and killed or captured to little avail. Finally, when it was obvious that there was no other way, the attempt was made to sever the tempted from the tempter by drawing a military cordon down the Ohio; and then came the war in which the French lost all.

Such is the main theme but not the whole interest of this book. It lifts the curtain revealing many interesting aspects of life in the Illinois settlement, from its agriculture and its horse mills, which produced inferior flour, to its creole maidens who were too superior to marry common soldiers. As might be expected, most of the documents here published were found in the Archives Nationales, Ministère des Colonies. Almost all the rest are papers of the Marquis de Vaudreuil which the Earl of Loudon somehow acquired and are part of his col-

lection in the Huntington Library. The value of these papers is reflected in a just remark in the preface—that the story could not have been told one-tenth as well without them.

The introduction of more than forty pages is an excellent one. It lights the reader's path through the mass of documents which follow and is itself lighted up by them. Altogether, these are both more and less formidable than the bulk of the volume might suggest: more, because they were written in eighteenth-century French often complicated by faulty construction, wild spelling, and ignorance of punctuation; less, because the lower half of each page contains an English translation of the original on the upper half. The task of translating the compositions of illiterates is not easy, as the editors observe. They have endeavored to find "what the man was trying to say and to say it for him in English," with the result that the English text is commonly a great improvement over the French. Some attempt has been made to preserve the rough flavor of the original, but surely the translation of "ennemis" as "hostiles" (p. 442) is too rough! It is also a mistake to refer to inhabitants' spirits as "broken" (p. 559) when the real meaning is "broken in." On the whole, however, the translation seems to be commendable. Readers will be puzzled over the form of two documents (p. 490-506) which, from their origin, should be in English and yet appear in French. The editors have not noticed it, nor have they explained that the phonetic symbol 8, which they have copied in some Indian names, is the equivalent of the French "ou." Many readers will also regret that there is no map. On the other hand, they will be grateful for the laborious research which has produced the crowd of biographical notes, and they will find the index excellent. The editors are to be congratulated on having turned out a good job.

A. L. BURT

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS

Frontenac and the Jesuits. By JEAN DELANGLEZ, S. J., Ph. D., assistant professor of history, Loyola University, Chicago. (Chicago, Institute of Jesuit History, 1939. vi, 296 p.)

This work represents painstaking research. The author gives plentiful indication of his use of primary and secondary source material in his effort to achieve the truth on controverted points. He studies the

relationship between the best-known colonial governor of Canada and the society so intimately associated with early missionary work among the Indians. This relationship was not pleasant. There were many points of disagreement, with charges and countercharges, condemnations and defenses to be discovered in the official and private correspondence of the time. Father Delanglez settles on three chief differences: the matter of civilizing, or Frenchifying the Indians, the selling of brandy to the natives, and the insinuation that the Jesuits engaged in trading despite the government's prohibitional measures.

Manifestly, the work of winning the Indian to the culture and language of the French was doomed to failure — a failure shared by the Ursulines and the Sulpicians — and if anything is to be criticized it is that Frontenac promised the impossible and blamed others for his failure to achieve it. In the matter of the brandy trade, the bishop and his diocesan clergy as much if not more than the Jesuits bore the brunt of the attack wherein traders were anxious to attract to their markets the peltries that were being drawn to the South by English and Dutch merchants. The bishop forbade the selling of brandy to the natives, the government supported this in an ordinance issued in 1679. Frontenac disregarded both.

In the matter of Jesuits engaging in trade, we have a splendid refutation of the charges insinuated by Margry and Parkman. Frontenac was sensitive in the business, not alone because he was dabbling in ventures calculated to enrich himself, but because the government depended on the merchants to defray the expenses of pioneering expeditions and in return promised them monopolies. In the midst of disappointment with their brave dreams of enrichment, it is not surprising that some of the niggardly ones made accusations against the missionaries. Father Delanglez in a fine chapter disproves and shows how fantastic were these charges.

If there be criticism of this book, it is that it shows signs of haste in composition. Certain arguments and refutations lose much of their force, and the reader is tempted to discount somewhat from the superlatives that abound in the style of the author. The documentation of the book is excellent. The interpretations seem to suffer by being expressed in terms suggestive of aroused feelings.

JAMES L. CONNOLLY

NAZARETH HALL
ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

Colin Robertson's Correspondence Book, September 1817 to September 1822. Edited with an introduction by E. E. RICH, M.A., fellow of St. Catharine's College, Cambridge, assisted by R. HARVEY FLEMING, B. Comm., University of Toronto. (London, Published by the Champlain Society for the Hudson's Bay Record Society, 1939. cxxx, 372, xi p. Frontispiece.)

The long and detailed introduction to these letters—well over a hundred pages—is needed for a correct understanding of the author of the letters. Colin Robertson is perhaps as difficult a person to evaluate impartially as one ever encounters. Capable of genuine statesmanship, he was nearly always unable to carry out his policies because of grandiose ideas of himself, a remarkable facility for squandering money, and lack of administrative ability. The Hudson's Bay Company, especially George Simpson, owed a great deal to him. Yet the company found him a most troublesome servant; and George Simpson, who displayed all the repelling unloveliness of his forceful personality where Robertson was concerned, wrote of him in terms of utmost contempt.

Thus it is necessary to see the man as he really was, not through the jaundiced eyes of a Simpson or the pitying gaze of men who knew him best in his ineffectual years. The introduction supplies such an all-comprehending view of the man who "saved the Hudson's Bay Company from surrender, saved the Red River Colony, deflected the fur trade route from the St. Lawrence to the Bay and made possible the 'Empire' of George Simpson," and who yet was fundamentally so small a personality that he accomplished all this through "a desire to see himself a Montreal merchant." The letters that form the book were even assembled by Robertson himself and sent to the committee as a mild kind of blackmail to force the company to give him what he considered more equitable treatment. These letters cover the best years of Robertson's life, 1817–22. They are supplemented in the appendix by sixteen other letters and some other documents. Many of the letters were written to Peter Irving, the brother of Washington Irving.

The introduction does more, however, than reveal Robertson's character. It shows, through the authoritative medium of the company's own records, the inaction and the lack of vigor, imagination

and resourcefulness which prevailed in the committee in the opening years of the nineteenth century and which were fast leading the company to its demise. It also makes amply evident that it was Lord Selkirk and his two brothers-in-law, Andrew Wedderburn Colville and John Halkett, aided by Robertson, who restored a semblance of vigorous life to the company and prepared the way for Simpson and his successful governorship. Naturally, therefore, both the introduction and the letters deal to a considerable extent with Selkirk's Red River colony. They also throw light on the years of struggle between the Hudson's Bay Company and the Northwest Company and the way by which consolidation was achieved in 1821.

Many characters are introduced. Among them Dr. John McLoughlin, John Dugald Cameron, Jean Baptiste Lagimonière, John Jacob Astor, Miles Macdonell, Louis Nolin, and the Reverend P. A. Tabeau are some of the persons with Minnesota connections who are mentioned.

This is the second volume of the Hudson's Bay Record Society's publications. Some readers will surely wish that the actual journals of a post had been chosen as the second offering, or that a sampling of George Simpson's voluminous letters and diaries had been published. Yet all who have occasion to use this book will agree that it maintains the high standard of editorial excellence set by the first volume and that it is a notable contribution to the history of the fur trade and the Red River colony for the period it covers.

GRACE LEE NUTE

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ST. PAUL

Guide to the Material in the National Archives (The National Archives, Publication no. 14). (Washington, United States Government Printing Office, 1940. xviii, 303 p. Cloth, \$.70; paper, \$.40.)

A task of overwhelming magnitude faced archivists when, as the reward of their unremitting efforts, the National Archives of the United States was established by Congress in 1934. A building must be planned and erected, the records of United States departments and agencies must be ferreted out in hundreds of storage rooms and obscure hideaways; cleaning, arranging, and mending must be undertaken;

cataloging systems must be devised; and finally finding lists must be made and published.

It speaks well for the vigor and hardihood of the young and almost untried body of American archivists that within a period of less than six years this five-fold program has been carried out. A magnificent building has been erected in Washington, to which hundreds of tons of books, letters, letter books, maps, treaties, reports, and other public records have been taken, some of them in apparently hopeless condition. Out of the chaos, order has been attained to such an extent that a guide of 303 pages is already in print. The people of the United States can be proud of this superefficient agency of their own creating.

The *Guide* is incomplete, imperfect, lacking in exactitude, and obviously serviceable for only a very limited period. It will be replaced by subsequent editions which will embody the results of the staff's most recent analyses of the records. Yet for all its imperfections, the *Guide* will serve a very useful purpose. All over the United States, men and women will be able to judge for the first time of the wealth of their country's records.

The divisions for which records are listed are given in a table of contents: Congress; the executive departments—state, treasury, war, justice, post office, navy, interior, agriculture, commerce, and labor; and the independent agencies—boards, commissions, societies, systems, committees, administrations, and the like. Under each division one finds brief descriptions of the records of the departments and agencies, with statements of bulk, the period of years covered by the records, and references to any printed lists, inventories, or descriptions already in existence. Some historical facts about the establishment of the department or agency and the origin and history of its records are frequently included.

One short section of the *Guide* lists "Gift Motion Pictures and Sound Recordings," and a short appendix notes many important groups of papers which have not yet been satisfactorily analyzed but for which some data are available. A very detailed index completes the volume.

G. L. N.

Dictionary of American History, vol. 5. JAMES TRUSLOW ADAMS, editor in chief; R. V. COLEMAN, managing editor. (New York, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1940. 515 p.)

The fifth volume of the *Dictionary of American History* completes the textual part of the work begun in 1936 to make available "some one source to which an inquirer might go to find, and quickly, what he wishes to know as to specific facts, events, trends or policies in our American past." The intention of the editors to supply such a source has been successfully fulfilled. The five volumes, to which an index volume is to be added, comprise a reference work of 2,333 pages covering in more than six thousand articles every aspect of American history.

Volume 5, which begins with an account of "The Sabbath" and ends with an article on the "Zwaanendael Colony," includes articles on "South Dakota," the "Southwest Fur Company," the "Stevens' Railroad Survey," "Lake Superior," the "Verendrye Explorations," "*Voyageurs*," "Wild Rice," and numerous other topics connected with the history of the Northwest. The Sioux Indians, their wars and treaties, and their relations with the Chippewa and the whites are discussed in eight articles. Other articles dealing with Minnesota places and events are those on the Twin Cities, Forts St. Charles and Snelling, the Falls of St. Anthony, the battles of Sandy Lake and Wood Lake, the Spirit Lake massacre, the Stillwater convention, the treaty of Traverse des Sioux, and President Taft's Winona speech of 1909.

The articles attempt to present objective summaries of the topics discussed. Necessarily they are as concise as possible. Consequently implications and alternative interpretations have suffered. The "official" point of view has received more prominence than the critical. Thus the articles on the "Sacco and Vanzetti Case" and on the "Scottsboro Case" define these two struggles between liberalism and conservatism without, in the opinion of the reviewer, revealing why these two court trials evoked such storms of feeling and emotion as to warrant their inclusion in the *Dictionary*. The "official" viewpoint has been strengthened also by the contributions, on certain specialized topics, of the men "in closest touch with the facts." The reader receives no hint from the article on "Sampling Referenda" by George Gallop, for instance, that modern scientific sampling methods have any relation to surveys of consumer habits and tastes.

Criticisms of a work are easy enough to make when so many topics have been treated within the space limitations of five volumes. The reviewers judgment, expressed in *Minnesota History* for June, 1940, is that the *Dictionary* is "a distinguished product of joint scholarship."

LEWIS BEESON

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ST. PAUL

George Caleb Bingham of Missouri: The Story of an Artist. By ALBERT CHRIST-JANER. With preface by THOMAS HART BENTON. (New York, Dodd, Mead & Company, 1940. xx, 171 p. Illustrations. \$5.00.)

Although this biography deals primarily with Bingham's accomplishments as an artist, its importance for historians should not be overlooked. The "Missouri artist" left a lasting record of the political and social scene in which he moved. Like Catlin, he pictured a phase of American life that he believed to be ephemeral. But unlike the artist of Indian life, Bingham was no outsider looking in, but a part of the turbulent life that he portrayed, an actor in the exciting drama of the frontier Middle West.

In the present volume, Mr. Christ-Janer pictures Bingham not only as the product of the Missouri frontier, but as a figure in the saga "yet unsung" that resulted in the peopling of the Mississippi Valley. The artist's father emigrated from Virginia to Missouri in 1819 with the "westward surge of homesteaders who found the rich black loam of the prairies so much to their liking." The son grew up with the frontier; he saw at firsthand the explorers, fur traders, emigrants, raftsmen, flatboatmen, soldiers, politicians, teamsters, "nameless waifs," and leaders of men who appear again and again in his canvases. The authentic tone of such genre pieces as "County Election," "Stump Speaking," and "Verdict of the People," which are among the examples of Bingham's work reproduced in the present volume, can doubtless be traced to his own participation in local and state politics. These pictures show frontier democracy at work; with a clarity unequaled by verbal descriptions, they depict democratic institutions in the making.

In assembling the material for this book, Mr. Christ-Janer had access to a number of hitherto unexploited sources. Most important is the series of a hundred and thirty-five letters that Bingham wrote to

his friend and patron, James S. Rollins of Columbia, Missouri. Substantial quotations from these letters, which are now preserved by the State Historical Society of Missouri, are included in the text. Other sources include the recollections of Rollins' son, Mr. C. B. Rollins, who knew Bingham personally; articles about Bingham and his work that appeared in contemporary newspapers; and the artist's numerous paintings and sketches. Copies of more than twenty of his paintings, some in color, and fifty-six of his sketches of single figures illustrate the book.

A chronology, a bibliography, and a catalogue of Bingham's paintings add to the usefulness of this book, which is a significant contribution to the history of American art. Its publication will doubtless help to perpetuate the "Bingham Revival" that had its beginning in 1934, when the City Art Museum of St. Louis "gave the Middlewest its first widely publicized showing" of Bingham's work.

BERTHA L. HEILBRON

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ST. PAUL

Big River to Cross: Mississippi Life Today. By BEN LUCIEN BURMAN. (New York, The John Day Company, 1940. 294 p. Illustrations. \$3.00.)

In 1939 the packet "Golden Eagle" left St. Louis bound for the upper Mississippi and St. Paul, the first passenger steamboat to try the twenty-odd locks of the upper river in a quarter of a century. Enthusiastic audiences gathered at the various locks and quays to applaud the "pioneers" of river navigation and to shout encouragement to the captain. Even the passengers imbibed some of the excitement, particularly as the "Golden Eagle" raced a storm up the broad reaches of Lake Pepin. And one of the passengers on this epochal trip was Ben Lucien Burman, veteran riverman and lover of the Mississippi in all its many phases.

Mr. Burman's book about the great river is a sincere and affectionate chronicle. He has explored with minute care and indefatigable curiosity not only the Mississippi itself but most of its tributaries, the Missouri, the Ohio, the Arkansas, and the Red. He has been a pilot, an inveterate traveler, the confidant of captains and roustabouts, a sympathetic and shrewd collector of folklore. There can be no doubt

about the authenticity of *Big River to Cross*. But Mr. Burman writes chiefly about the lower river, the tortuous yellow current that stretches from St. Louis to the Delta, the sinuous artery that is full of shifting sandbars and catfish and snags as well as craft varying from packets and barges to launches and shanty boats. Moreover, the river itself is central in the book, not the ports and harbors, not the big cities, but the eddying currents of the stream which provides a haven and a means of subsistence to thousands. For the Mississippi is an inland world beyond the limits of which countless bargemen, roustabouts, engineers, shanty boat dwellers, bootleggers, and fishermen rarely penetrate.

The reader of any book on the Mississippi inevitably thinks of Mark Twain's classic volume. But even when compared with *Life on the Mississippi*, Mr. Burman's chronicle stands up well. It is written in a quiet and simple style which occasionally achieves genuine beauty. Less turbulent and less comprehensive than Mark Twain's book, it has more unity and a more consistent artistry. Mr. Burman's anecdotes and descriptions are particularly vivid.

Probably the most valuable part of the book is that devoted to the folklore of the lower river, for the author has collected from stevedores and pilots and fishermen a whole store of legends. Some of them pertain to fanciful history, some to certain sanguinary events in the back country along the bayous, but most of them center about "Old Al the River King," "a glistening alligator of a vastness beyond description, carrying in one of his scaly paws a great pipe of tobacco, and bearing on his enormous head a shiny golden crown." The devotion of the Negro roustabouts to "Old Al" is truly magnificent. Mr. Burman tells these tales with sympathy and zest; their charm is heightened by the illustrative drawings of Alice Caddy.

JOHN T. FLANAGAN

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS

Iowa Pioneer Foundations. By GEORGE F. PARKER. In two volumes. (Iowa City, The State Historical Society of Iowa, 1940. 532, 571 p. \$3.00.)

These two volumes of more than a thousand pages pretend to lay the "foundations" for a substantial history of the state of Iowa. Such

an undertaking, of course, is worthy and, if well done, should be of real benefit to the general reader, student, and historian. But such an enterprise also demands an understanding of the national mind, a knowledge of political, social, and economic trends, and a competency in the historical method. There seems to be little evidence that the author possessed any of these talents.

Apparently, he first became interested in the history of the Hawkeye State in 1884. Before his death in 1928 he had completed his manuscript and deposited it with the State Historical Society of Iowa, where it remained for about fifteen years before it was published "as written without additions or deletions." After beginning with a prosaic introduction of some sixty pages, the first volume sluggishly recounts the "Processes of Settlement," and presents chapters on land and population, government and politics, roads, grain growing, livestock raising, "Contributory Trades," religion, and education. The second volume attempts to delineate the social structure of pioneer Iowa, treats of the position of women and the management of the family, continues with discussions of amusements, pioneer customs, language, crime, and conservatism, and finally closes with some remarks about the Civil War. To these are added certain of the author's personal observations concerning the pioneer pattern.

A mere survey of these chapters might lead one to believe that here is a fascinating, accurate, and specific account of men and manners in Iowa from 1830 to 1870. A slight examination of the volumes, however, leaves even a friendly reviewer with entirely different impressions. The work is a splendid example of subjective philosophizing. It is history written in the armchair; it is not history culled from original sources and based upon critical examination of evidence. The result is a general, diffuse, rambling narrative which does not offer clear-cut delineations of the subjects involved. For example, one knows little more of the activities of the pioneer carpenter, shoemaker, or cooper after reading Parker's interpretation than one did before. There is no adequate description of the county fair, of horse racing, or of field sports. The author's treatment of frontier diseases and their remedies is elementary. Even his section on the "choice and preparation of food" is unappetizing.

The volumes are splendid examples of nineteenth-century moralizing. They are museum pieces. They possess few citations to sources

and carry no bibliographies. The study, as Parker himself says (2:550), is "ragged and imperfect."

PHILIP D. JORDAN

MIAMI UNIVERSITY
OXFORD, OHIO

Pacific Railways and Nationalism in the Canadian-American Northwest, 1845-1873. By LEONARD BERTRAM IRWIN. (Philadelphia, 1939. xii, 246 p. \$2.00.)

This book — a doctoral dissertation in history prepared at the University of Pennsylvania — is more than welcome, for it goes far in filling a real gap in recorded diplomatic and business history. As the author bluntly states in his introduction, it is neither a history of the Dominion, nor of the Canadian Pacific, nor of the Northern Pacific, but rather an analysis of the influences each of these had on the others during their formative period. It answers the difficult questions, "how" and "why," rather than the simple query, "what."

Dr. Irwin has not been distracted by the superficial glamour of his imperial theme, nor has he wandered aimlessly in the colorful but blind path of anecdote. Instead, in the first three and a half chapters, he has segregated and described precisely, and on the whole clearly, what he regards as the dominant forces and characters at work on both sides of the forty-ninth parallel during the critical years from 1845 to 1873. Then, like a dramatist who has introduced his characters, he turns them loose on his broad stage. When the curtain falls, the mighty Dominion and the two great transcontinentals of the Northwest have had scarcely more than a dramatic introduction. Yet, because we have watched the interplay of the powerful influences that brought them into being, we may know more of their character and destiny than if we had watched the brilliant spectacle of their growth and maturity.

There are certain omissions which, to this reviewer at least, are serious, and at times the author's strict adherence to the analytical method produces some chronological confusion. On the whole, however, the story moves with authority and coherence, and it is written with an ease and evident relish rarely found in a doctoral dissertation. The author is at his best when developing his central theme, and generally speaking, he integrates his story well with contemporary events,

notably diplomatic. There is, however, a scarcity, almost an absence, of social and business statistics. What, for example, were the comparative populations, assets, and resources of the competing regions north and south of the forty-ninth parallel? Which grew faster, and how many immigrants went to the areas during the critical years from 1867 to 1873? What was the relative financial strength of the competing railroad builders? Tables or graphs giving this information would have required only a few pages, but would have lent background, perspective, and strength to the narrative and to the author's conclusions. The absence of maps is also to be regretted. Even one could have contained the essential information.

These shortcomings, however, are sins of omission which the author may well intend to remedy if he continues the work he has so brilliantly begun. In any event, this volume has added to our information about the Northwest and has provided, among other things, an invaluable prerequisite to Professor Hedges' recently published *Building the Canadian West* (1939). Last but by no means least, Dr. Irwin's book, from cover to cover, is thoroughly enjoyable reading.

R. C. OVERTON

CHICAGO, ILLINOIS

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES

MARY W. BERTHEL ("Place Names of the Mille Lacs Region") is editorial assistant on the staff of the Minnesota Historical Society. Marjorie Edgar ("Imaginary Animals of Northern Minnesota") has long been a collector of Minnesota folklore and of the songs of certain immigrant groups in the state. She contributed two articles on Finnish folk songs in Minnesota to earlier issues of this magazine (*ante*, 16:319-321, 17:406-410). Thomas E. Keys ("The Medical Books of Dr. Charles N. Hewitt") is reference librarian in the library of the Mayo Clinic at Rochester. George B. Engberg ("The Rise of Organized Labor in Minnesota") is an instructor in history in the Leyden Community High School at Franklin Park, Illinois. The present article is based on a master's thesis that Mr. Engberg prepared at the University of Minnesota in 1939. Book reviews have been contributed to the present issue by Professor A. L. Burt of the department of history in the University of Minnesota; Father James L. Connolly, rector of Nazareth Hall, St. Paul; Dr. John T. Flanagan, assistant professor of English in the University of Minnesota; Dr. Philip D. Jordan of the history faculty of Miami University at Oxford, Ohio; R. C. Overton, executive assistant to the president of the Burlington Railroad; and three members of the society's staff, Dr. Grace Lee Nute, Dr. Lewis Beeson, and Bertha L. Heilbron.

At a meeting of the society's executive council, held in the Historical Building on the evening of October 14, a resolution was adopted by which the society agrees to "accept ownership of furniture, equipment, and all articles and documents" now on display in the Round Tower Museum at Fort Snelling. The society will "pass on the desirability" of future additions to the museum collections, and it accepts the responsibility for removing these collections if at any future time the "Fort Snelling reservation is disposed of or abandoned by the government." The council also endorsed a proposal that the state acquire title to the land upon which Fort St. Charles was located

and recommended the establishment of a state park on the portion of the Northwest Angle that embraces its site. Dr. Arthur J. Larsen, secretary and superintendent of the society, was elected to membership in the executive council to replace Mr. Nathaniel P. Langford, who died on April 18.

Following the business meeting, a special program of papers and talks was presented in the auditorium. About seventy-five people were present. The Honorable Julius A. Schmahl, state treasurer and an ex-officio member of the society's executive council, read the opening paper, reviewing the career of the first secretary of Minnesota Territory, Charles Kilgore Smith. Since it was largely as a result of his efforts that the Minnesota Historical Society was incorporated on October 20, 1849, the subject was of special interest to the audience. Mr. Schmahl was followed by another member of the council, Judge Julius E. Haycraft of Fairmont. He described the activities of the sixty-two local historical societies that are now active in Minnesota, and stressed the need for fireproof quarters in which these agencies can preserve and display materials for the study of local history. The third speaker, Mr. Willoughby M. Babcock, curator of the society's museum, announced the recent acquisition by the society of a group of Chippewa medicine lodge materials and described its significance in a talk on the "Indian Medicine Society and Indian Life." The collection, which is described *post*, p. 416, was displayed in connection with the meeting.

Plans are being made for the society's ninety-second annual meeting, to be held on January 20, 1941. The program will give special attention to the history of St. Paul, which will commemorate in 1941 the centennial of the building of the Chapel of St. Paul by Father Galtier, an event that marked the founding of the city. The meeting will consist of three sessions—a local history conference, a luncheon, and an evening meeting. The annual address will be presented at the latter session by Professor Philip D. Jordan of Miami University, who will take as his subject the activities in Minnesota of the Hutchinson family of singers. A group of songs of a century ago, made popular by these widely known musicians when St. Paul was in its infancy, will illustrate the speaker's theme. The program is being planned by a committee of the society's executive council in co-

operation with the superintendent. Its members are Judge Royal A. Stone, chairman, Miss Laura Furness, Father James Connolly, Professor Lester B. Shippee, Mr. William H. Bovey, and Judge Kenneth G. Brill.

A total of 733 readers, the largest number ever recorded for a single quarter, used the resources of the manuscript division during the three months from July 1 to September 30. Of these, 238 consulted the census schedules in the custody of the society.

Three sustaining members — R. W. Clark, Blanche M. Clough, and Mrs. Charles L. Spencer, all of St. Paul — were among the nineteen active members who joined the society during the third quarter of 1940. The sixteen annual members who joined in the same period are Laura L. Atkins of St. Paul, Mrs. James S. Brodie of New Orleans, Frank Clague of Redwood Falls, Mrs. C. M. Griggs of St. Paul, Mrs. Nora H. Guthrey of Rochester, Paul O. Hanson of Minneapolis, Walter G. Hudson of Minneapolis, Joseph Kerntz of Ely, Mrs. Laura Gibson Leland of Los Angeles, Jane Morey of Duluth, Thomas C. Savage of St. Paul, Mrs. McNeill V. Seymour of St. Paul, J. Clair Stone of St. Paul, Dr. D. L. Tilderquist of Duluth, W. R. Werring of Morgan, and Mary Blake Young of St. Paul.

The society lost nine active members by death during the three months from July 1 to September 30: Frederick G. Atkinson of Minneapolis on July 22, Beatrice M. Longfellow of Minneapolis on August 4, Joseph B. Cotton of New York on August 6, Edward T. Dahlin of St. Paul on August 7, William A. Durst of Minneapolis on August 19, Eugene W. Randall of St. Paul on August 19, Mrs. George H. Warren of Minneapolis on August 27, Mrs. Harry T. Drake of St. Paul on September 1, and Mrs. Edwin J. Krafft of Minneapolis on September 14.

An interview with Mr. Edward C. Gale of Minneapolis, a former president of the society and a member of its executive council, is reported by Brenda Ueland in the September issue of *Golfer and Sportsman*. In it she presents some of Mr. Gale's recollections of his father, Samuel C. Gale, who settled in Minneapolis in 1857, and gives the text of a letter that the latter wrote from Minnesota in that year.

She tells something also of Mr. Gale's notable collection of books and manuscripts relating to Minnesota history and of his interest in the Minnesota Historical Society and its work.

The address on *New Englanders in Minnesota* presented by Dr. Larsen before the Society of Mayflower Descendants meeting in Minneapolis on May 21 has been published by that organization in the form of a small pamphlet (14 p.).

The superintendent presented papers and talks on "Community Memories" before the Douglas County Old Settlers Association meeting at Alexandria on August 4, on "A County Historical Society and Its Work" before the Kandiyohi County Historical Society at Willmar on September 12 and the McLeod County Historical Society at Hutchinson on September 21, on "The Pioneers" before a group of old settlers at Willmar on September 12, and on "The Minnesota Historical Society" before the Fourth District Federation of Women's Clubs meeting in the society's building in St. Paul on September 24. Mr. Babcock spoke on the Grand Portage stockade before the Community Club of Hovland on August 31; Miss McCann addressed a meeting of Boy Scouts in St. Paul on September 21, taking as her subject "Boys in Early Minnesota"; and Dr. Nute presented a paper on "Basswood Lake in History, Ancient and Modern" at Basswood Lodge on August 10.

ACCESSIONS

Some important additions to the papers of Richard Chute, a pioneer resident of Minneapolis, have been made by his granddaughter, Miss Mary G. Chute of Wayzata (see *ante*, 4:170). Among the new accessions are papers harking back to the 1840's, when Chute was connected with W. G. and G. W. Ewing of Indianapolis, the fur trading company that originally sent him to the Minnesota country. There is evidence in these papers that Chute was actively working for his company while the treaty of Traverse des Sioux was being negotiated in 1851. Among other subjects for which this collection is of value are the genealogy of the Chute family, the activities of Richard Chute while serving as a member of the Minneapolis board of trade, and the long affiliation of his son, William Y. Chute, with the Young Men's Christian Association of Minneapolis.

A letter signed by Daniel Webster and dated May 17, 1848, has been presented by the College of St. Benedict at St. Joseph, through the courtesy of Sister Grace McDonald. It is addressed to C. C. Andrews, who was being thanked by Webster for recent "friendly attentions" and courtesy paid at the funeral of his son.

The papers of Jeremiah Russell, a pioneer resident of Sauk Rapids who established the *Sauk Rapids Frontiersman* in 1855, have been presented by his daughter, Mrs. J. H. Coates of Minneapolis. Included are a volume of records that he kept while conducting an Indian trading store from 1849 to 1859, lists of the subscribers to the *Frontiersman*, and a biographical sketch. Mrs. Coates also has presented the manuscript assessor's records of Sauk Rapids for 1874; some of her husband's papers, including the records of the Minnesota Farmer's Exchange for the years from 1904 to 1910; and a portrait of Mrs. Julia A. A. Wood, the Minnesota author and editor who was widely known as Minnie Mary Lee.

In a letter of January 8, 1850, to Hercules L. Dousman, Henry M. Rice wrote, "we are having a map of Minnesota made in Philadelphia and I wrote the preface and stated that Minnesota was indebted to Col. H. L. Dousman of Prairie du Chien for her name." This letter is one of a file of Rice letters, in the Dousman Papers in the possession of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, recently photographed for the Minnesota Historical Society. Letters from 1848 to 1853 give information on Joseph Renville, Sylvanus B. Lowry, Indian treaties, the Indian trade in Minnesota, Rice's interest in political affairs, in the development of Minnesota railroads and steamboat lines on the Mississippi, and family matters. In an interesting letter of 1851 Rice asks Dousman to send "4 or 5 dozen fresh eggs" for the wedding festivities of Rice's sister, since eggs "cannot be had" in St. Paul.

An account book kept from 1854 to 1869 by Dr. Thomas S. Williamson, the Presbyterian missionary to the Minnesota Sioux, has been received from Mr. Mason B. Moltzner of Portland, Oregon. It appears to be a companion volume to a similar book already in the possession of the society (see *ante*, 2:433). The newly acquired volume contains a wealth of material on the Lac qui Parle mission, including accounts of an Indian boarding school, records of the collections for the

mission church, and specifications and a record of expenditures for some farm buildings erected for the Reverend Stephen R. Riggs. Included also are Dr. Williamson's records as postmaster at Lac qui Parle from 1854 to 1856, and information about real estate that he purchased in St. Anthony from 1853 to 1860. Another addition to the society's collection of Williamson material has been made by Mrs. Margaret Williamson of Minneapolis, who has presented some manuscripts that he wrote in the Dakota language and an article from his pen on the American Indians. Included in the gift are a discussion of the question "Is the Dakota Related to the Indo-European Languages?" prepared by Andrew W. Williamson from notes collected by his father, Dr. Williamson, and some reminiscences of Thomas C. Williamson, another son of the missionary.

Some correspondence of Francis M. Crosby, a pioneer lawyer and judge of Hastings, and Philander Parmalee is included in twenty-six manuscripts dated from 1855 to 1869, recently found in the attic of an old house at Wheaton, Illinois, and presented by Mrs. Gertrude R. Angell of that city. In a letter of June 19, 1859, Crosby comments upon the excitement caused in Minnesota "by the discovery in the big woods of an inexhaustable quantity of Gensing." Everybody in the vicinity, he writes, "is digging the root. They average from two to five dollars a day." In addition to letters, this collection includes bills, tax receipts, and material relating to investments in Minnesota.

Six volumes of store records kept by Thorne Norrish and Company at Hastings from 1860 to 1892 have been presented by Miss Gertrude Norrish of St. Paul. They consist of ledgers, journals, records of accounts due, and stock inventories. The proprietors of the store were John F. Norrish, who settled in Hastings in 1858 and served for many years as a member of the legislature from Dakota County, as surveyor general of Minnesota, and as a member of the state fair and state prison boards, and John L. Thorne, early Hastings banker and mayor. The company was later known as Norrish and Sieben.

The records taken from the cornerstone of the Congregational Church of Hamilton in Fillmore County have been presented by Mr. C. H. Steffens of Cottonwood. Minutes of meetings, baptismal records for the period from 1860 to 1890, copies of church periodicals, and the like are included.

Some correspondence of Rutherford B. Hayes with Alexander Ramsey, Cushman K. Davis, and other Minnesotans is included among Hayes Papers recently copied for the society on film slides by the Hayes Memorial Library of Fremont, Ohio. Among other items copied are letters relating to the settlement and industrial development of Duluth and to Hayes's investments there. A letter written by his business agent, W. K. Rogers, on March 30, 1870, describes Duluth as consisting of "stores, pleasant tasteful homes, large Hotels, and churches, spreading from the margin of the lake, up the slope towards the painted bluffs, and reaching for a mile along the crescent shore." Rogers considered this the "most attractive and really splendid site for a city, I have ever seen." The material copied relates to the years from 1856 to 1895.

A series of elaborately illustrated diaries, kept by Charles F. Johnson at Duluth from 1870, when he settled there, until his death in 1896, has been presented by his daughter, Mrs. Afton B. Hilton of Duluth. Johnson was the founder of a book store and a bindery at Duluth and he was active in the city's political and civic life. His interest in the future of the new community is expressed in an entry for April 20, 1871, which reads: "I have hung myself upon the future prosperity of this young city. . . . I will not fail, and be it through thick or thin I will have a castle on Lake Superior yet!" The diaries reveal that as time went on he served as city comptroller, as a member of the city council, on the state Republican committee, and as customs collector of the port of Duluth. With the diaries, Mrs. Hilton has presented the manuscripts of several original plays by Johnson and of others that he translated from the Swedish in connection with his activities as a member of the Scandinavian Dramatic Society of Duluth. The collection includes also both the manuscript and the printed form of an illustrated account of Johnson's Civil War service as a member of the Hawkins Zouaves of New York.

A scrapbook kept by the Reverend Joseph A. Gilfillan from 1872 to 1898, while he was serving as a missionary to the Chippewa of northern Minnesota, has been presented by Mr. S. Colum Gilfillan of Chicago and other members of the Gilfillan family, through the courtesy of Mr. Harold W. Lathrop of the state department of conservation. It contains material relating to Chippewa missions, in-

cluding clippings from *The Progress*, a publication issued by Theodore H. Beaulieu at White Earth, and a large number of interesting items about the discovery of the source of the Mississippi. Mr. Lathrop has presented a copy of an address that he delivered at Itasca State Park on July 7, 1940, when a marker commemorating Gilfillan's work was dedicated.

The Reverend W. A. Shannon of Pasadena, California, has presented an autobiographical narrative in which he tells of his education at Northwestern University in the early 1870's, of his experiences as a Methodist circuit rider in Montana in the 1880's, and as a minister and presiding elder in Minnesota and elsewhere. In the 1890's and 1900's the writer filled pulpits at Minneapolis and Anoka, and served as presiding elder of the Duluth district of the Methodist church.

Eight diaries kept from 1879 to 1885 by John E. Purmort of Bethel Township in Anoka County are included in a box of Purmort and Giddings family papers received from Mr. George Giddings and Mr. John R. Purmort of Anoka, through the courtesy of Miss Lucy M. Purmort of St. Paul. The diarist married Louisa Giddings in 1885. Among other items in the collection are letters written by Abner Purmort and his wife of Dayton; correspondence relating to John I. Giddings, Dr. Aurora W. Giddings, and other members of the Giddings family; and legal papers and records of Joshua Giddings, some of which are dated as early as 1799. Some of the letters contain data on the early history of Anoka, and one, dated April 6, 1856, includes a description of St. Anthony as a "city of some seven thousand people where five or six years ago nothing but a solitary Trading post marked the site." A family Bible containing some valuable genealogical information is included in the gift.

A large illustrated scrapbook kept by Mr. Axel Lindegard of Hallock since his emigration from Sweden in the late 1880's has been copied on film slides for the society. Both pictorial and descriptive information is presented on the compiler's home, relatives, and friends in Sweden; his trip to America; a brief period of residence in Chicago; and events connected with the story of Hallock since he settled there in September, 1889. There are also numerous biographical sketches of residents of Hallock and Kittson County. Part of the manuscript

is written in Swedish. This detailed record, with its many photographic illustrations, is a valuable source of information on the history of one section of northern Minnesota.

Much valuable material on political conditions in Minnesota in the early years of the present century is presented in some additional papers of Lynn Haines (see *ante*, 18:313) recently presented by Mrs. Haines, who resides in Washington, D. C. Included are letters from such political leaders as Victor Murdock, Robert M. La Follette, Gifford Pinchot, and Charles A. Lindbergh.

A copy of an honors paper on "Ignatius Donnelly, The Sage of Nininger," prepared at Yale University in 1939 by Mr. Duncan H. Baird of St. Paul, is the gift of the author.

A complete file of the *Democratic Watchman* of Bellefonte, Pennsylvania, from August 27, 1857, to May 9, 1861, has been presented by Mrs. Margaret B. Andrews of Kansas City, Missouri, and Mrs. Margery G. Hunt of Minneapolis, the daughters of J. S. Barnhart, editor of this Democratic organ. For the years covered, the only known files of the *Watchman* are this and the one owned by the publisher.

A copy of the rare *Frontier Scout* of Fort Rice, Dakota Territory, for August 10, 1865, has been received from the South Dakota Historical Society. The *Scout* was published by the officers of the First United States Volunteer Infantry "for the edification of the people of Dakotah, both civilized and savage," according to the first number, issued on June 15, 1865. A copy of the latter number also is owned by the society.

An important collection of Chippewa medicine society material has been received from Mr. Paul Hamilton of the Minneapolis Institute of Arts, who obtained it from a Chippewa woman, Mrs. John Frank, of Ponsford. Included are medicine bags, rattles, embroidered articles of ceremonial regalia, packages of medicines and personal charms, carved invitation sticks, wooden bird totems, small wooden tube containers for packages of medicine, and many other items. Several excellent photographs of Mrs. Frank have been presented by Mr. Hamilton.

A model of a dog travois, a casse-tete, a wooden war club, and several other articles of Indian origin, are the gifts of Mrs. Gilbert L. Wilson of St. Paul. Other additions to the Indian and ethnological collections include two Chippewa Indian dolls, presented by Miss Irene Hudson of St. Paul; and a beaded ceremonial bag, a pair of moccasins, and a pair of garters, given by Mrs. John W. Willis of St. Paul.

An elaborately wrought nosegay holder of silver, used in 1850 for a wedding bouquet, is the gift of Miss Nellie Cardozo of St. Paul. She has also presented a silver coin purse, two cardcases of silver and one of tortoise shell inlaid with gold, several pieces of hair jewelry set in gold, and an embroidered handkerchief, all dating from the 1860's and 1870's; and an album containing photographs and autographs of a number of prominent pioneer residents of St. Paul. A handsome India shawl of camel's hair and a Paisley shawl are the gifts of Mrs. C. L. Spencer of St. Paul. Mrs. H. R. Fairchild of St. Paul has presented a wedding dress of gray silk poplin worn in 1872. Two patchwork quilt tops are the gifts of Miss Marguerite Hammond of St. Paul.

Additions to the society's collection of household articles include an Elias Howe sewing machine, wool carders, and bobbins, from Mr. A. D. Wicks of Brownsdale; a Wilcox and Gibbs sewing machine from Captain Arthur Mackenzie of St. Paul; and a small cowhide trunk, a brass candlestick and snuffer, an iron nutcracker, a wooden butter ladle, and other items from Mr. C. G. Brush of Turtle Lake, Wisconsin.

Additions to the portrait collection include a large oil painting of Colonel Charles W. West of Minneapolis, for whom the West Hotel was named, presented by Miss Helen Wood of Minneapolis; a photograph of Colonel Alfred B. Brackett, the gift of his daughter, Mrs. H. R. Fairchild of St. Paul; and likenesses of Mr. and Mrs. Martin Layman and Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Roberts of Minneapolis, from Mr. Arthur Layman of Minneapolis. Miss Esther C. Johnson of Minneapolis has presented some two hundred and fifty negatives of Twin City scenes about 1900.

A copy of the recent work in three volumes by Thomas J. Holmes entitled *Cotton Mather: A Bibliography of His Works* (Cambridge, 1940) is the gift of Mr. William G. Mather of Cleveland. All the

known writings of the great New England scholar and clergyman are described in detail in this valuable work, which is illustrated with reproductions of the title pages of many of his books.

A twenty-nine page pamphlet by Jonathan Edwards entitled *A Strong Rod Broken and Withered: A Sermon Preach'd at Northampton, on the Lord's-Day, June 26, 1748, on the Death of the Honourable John Stoddard, Esq.* (Boston, 1748) has been presented by Mrs. Charles L. Spencer of St. Paul on behalf of the Minnesota society of the Colonial Dames of America. The booklet is not only an important addition to the society's collection of Edwards material, but an interesting and authentic example of early American printing.

Miss Annie I. Carpenter has added to the society's extensive genealogical collection a work in five volumes published by the American Historical Company under the title *Colonial and Revolutionary Lineages of America: A Collection of Genealogical Studies, Completely Documented, and Appropriately Illustrated, Bearing upon Notable Early American Lines and Their Collateral Connections* (New York, 1939).

Genealogists who wish to consult source material for family records will be interested in the following recent additions to the society's collections: *Vital Records of Georgetown, Maine, to the Year 1892* (Auburn, Maine, 1939. 207 p.); *Calendar of New Jersey Wills, 1781-1785* (*New Jersey Archives*, vol. 35—Trenton, 1939. 590 p.); H. Stanley Craig, *Salem County, New Jersey, Genealogical Data* (Merchantville, New Jersey, 1939. 263 p.); and *Records of Crum Elbow Precinct, Dutchess County, New York, 1738-1761* (Dutchess County Historical Society, *Collections*, vol. 7—Poughkeepsie, New York, 1940. 196 p.).

Among local histories recently received are: Alexander S. McQueen, *History of Charlton County, Georgia* (Atlanta, 1932. 269 p.); Harry L. Wilkey, *The Story of a Little Town; A History of Paloma, Illinois* (Paloma, 1934. 104 p.); Charles R. Staples, *The History of Pioneer Lexington, 1779-1806* (Lexington, Kentucky, 1939. 361 p.); Florence G. Thurston, *Three Centuries of Freeport, Maine* (Freeport, 1940. 250 p.); *The Story of the Schenectady Massacre* (1940. 24 p.); Abigail F. Halsey, *In Old Southampton* (New York, 1940. 143 p.); Edward C. Hoagland, *Twigs from Family*

Trees or 162 Early American and Foreign Lineages of First Settlers in This Country and Their Descendants Who Were Pioneers in Northern Pennsylvania and Central New York (Wysox, Pennsylvania, 1940. 194 p.); Elton M. Manuel, *Merchants and Mansions of Bygone Days, An Authentic Account of the Early Settlers of Newport, Rhode Island* (Newport, 1939. 32 p.); and John A. Whitman, *Historical Facts about the Churches of Wythe County, Virginia* (Wytheville, Virginia, 1939. 53 p.).

Family histories acquired during the third quarter of 1940 include: C. F. Blumberg, *The Carl F. and Catherine Ruff Blumberg Klan Book* (Seguin, Texas, 1938. 84 p.); Mary B. Clarke, *Bosworth Genealogy* (part 6, "Seventh Generation"—San Francisco, 1940. 240 p.); G. W. L. Meeker, *Genealogy and History of the Coleman-Poole and Allied Families* (Galesburg, Illinois, 1937. 64 p.); Return J. Meigs, *The Corbins of Virginia* (Westfield, New Jersey, 1940. 49 p.); Albert H. Crosby, *John Crosby of Yorkshire and Some of His Descendants* (Hartford, 1940. 31 p.); Timothy M. Fairchild, *The Name and Family of Fairchild* (Iowa City, Iowa. 228 p.); Harold F. Stout, *The Clan Finley, a Condensed Genealogy of the Finley Family at Home and Abroad* (1940. 153 p.); Carrie E. Crowell, *A Supplement to the Genealogical Register of the Descendants of Thomas Flint of Salem* (Providence, Rhode Island, 1939. 71 p.); Roy S. King, *The Ancestral Pilgrimage along Life's Pathway. Galloway, Gay, King, Mitchell, Stevenson, and Allied Families* (Atlanta, Georgia, 1939. 114 p.); Edwin V. Griswold, *The Griswolds on the Olentangy* (Chicago, 1939. 16 p.); Francis L. D. Goodrich, *Descendants of Ezra and Sarah (Gillett) Hall* (Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1939. 48 p.); Sylvester Hickman, *Genealogy of the Hickman Family* (Chicago, 1907. 148 p.); John W. Hoyt, *A Genealogy of Samuel Hoyt and Betsey Webb, Stamford, Connecticut, Sixth Generation from Simon Hoyt* (Medford, Oregon, 1939. 103 p.); Harry B. Humphrey, *Some Notes on the Dudley, Massachusetts, Branch of the Humphrey Family* (Cabin John, Maryland, 1940. 18 p.); Annie D. Davis, *Abraham Johnson and Descendants* (Greensboro, North Carolina, 1939. 70 p.); Harry Alexander Davis, compiler, *Some Huguenot Families of South Carolina and Georgia*—Supplement no. 2: *David Huguenin* (1939. 10 p.), Supplement no. 3: *Bourquin Family* (1940. 94 p.); Theron W. Long, *A Long Genealogy, a Partial Genealogy of the Long*

Family of Cass County, Michigan (Booneville, Missouri, 1937. 14 p.); Charles R. McCollum, *Genealogy of the McCollum and Allied Families* (Richland Center, Wisconsin, 1936. 60 p.); Charles W. Burpee, *The Maxwell Family from the Story of Connecticut* (Rockville, Connecticut, 1939. 15 p.); Vida M. Pursel, *Genealogy of the Miller and Pursel Families* (1939. 166 p.); Fleming Newbold, *Family of Charles and Frances Lowe Newbold, Ancestors and Descendants* (Washington, D. C., 1939. Chart); Peter Norbeck, *The Norbecks of South Dakota* (Redfield, South Dakota, 1938. 104 p.); Jennie M. Patten, *A Pratt Book: The American Ancestors and Descendants of Simon Newcomb Pratt and His Wife Deborah Isabel Nelson* (161 p.); Leslie S. Purkis, *The Fire Kindlers, the Story of the Purkis Family* (Ancaster, Ontario, 1939. 55 p.); Emily G. Roberts, *Ancestral Study of Four Families, Roberts, Griffith, Cartwright, Simpson* (Terrell, Texas, 1939. 598 p.); Robert B. Shackelford, *The Shackelford Family, Its English and American Origins and Some of Its Branches* (Charlottesville, Virginia, 1940. 84 p.); Charles R. Shearer, *Genealogical Record of the Shearer and Wise Family Relationship* (Columbus Junction, Iowa, 1939. 125 p.); Iva Scheffel, *Genealogy of the Stansbury Family, 1658-1938* (Mountain View, California, 1938. 80 p.); Herald F. Stout, *The Staudt-Stoudt-Stout Family of Ohio* (Annapolis, 1935. 355 p.); Mary S. Taylor, *Annals of a Bucks County Family of Old Taylorsville, Pennsylvania* (Bogota, New Jersey, 1940. 300 p.); Otey S. Jones, *Throckmorton, Barbour, Jones* (St. Louis, 1939. 79 p.); Carl Williams, *Sidelights on Williams Family History* (Fort Pierce, Florida, 1940. 89 p.); Percy E. Woodward, *Some Descendants of Nathaniel Woodward, Mathematician* (Newtonville, Massachusetts, 1940. 63 p.); and George M. Wrong, *The Chronicle of a Family* (Toronto, 1938. 62 p.).

NEWS AND COMMENT

A CONVENIENT LIST of "Historical Museums in Canada" has been compiled by Gwendolen M. Kidd and published in the *Canadian Historical Review* for September. Historical collections are grouped by provinces and by places within each province. The name of each museum is accompanied by a brief note describing the nature of the collection and, when possible, giving the name of the curator. The main purpose of the list is to provide a "directory indicating where material of a particular nature may be found and where information may be obtained." The compiler found among Canadian communities a slowly growing recognition that, "even from the purely utilitarian point of view, few assets are more valuable to a community than an historic site, or building, or museum collection which will attract the attention of both residents and visitors." In Canada as a whole, "communities provincial or local that have nothing to show are rare indeed."

"Even a modest piece of research may, if pushed hard, turn into an exhilarating pursuit," writes Tremaine McDowell in an essay on "Hunting without Gun or Camera" which appears in the *Colophon* for the first quarter of 1940. "No matter what a man chases, bear or muskellunge, autographs or rare books," the author continues, "he knows the same thrill and the same triumph that makes literary research one of the most provocative of sports." Dr. McDowell will be remembered by readers of this magazine as the author of a stimulating essay on "Regionalism in American Literature," which appeared in the issue for June, 1939 (*ante*, 20: 105-118).

"We should combat the narrow, family pride viewpoint and substitute therefor the conception of family history as a method of approach to the study of local and general history," writes Henry W. Hyde, Jr., in an article on "The Genealogist as a Contributor to Historical Research," which appears in the *Quarterly* of the National Genealogical Society for June. Among the contributions to historical research that are possible for most genealogists, Mr. Hyde lists the discovery of new sources and their preservation.

A hint of the great variety of subjects explored by Foster Rhea Dulles in his recent volume *America Learns to Play* (New York, 1940) is given in the author's preface, where he writes: "recreation includes a wide category of amusements ranging from horseshoe-pitching to symphony concerts, from the circus to fox hunting, from prize-fights to contract bridge, from lodge night to international polo." He gives emphasis, however, to the "diversions or sports which have reached the greatest number of people." In some instances Mr. Dulles localizes his examples in the Middle West and even in Minnesota. Thus, in discussing the recent rise in the popularity of skiing, he notes that the sport "reached the United States by way of Norwegian settlers who organized the country's pioneer ski club at Red Wing, Minnesota, in 1883." Softball, another sport "that had a great boom in the 1930's," according to Mr. Dulles, "was being played as kitten ball in St. Paul about 1912." A moving panorama of the Mississippi Valley that attracted large audiences in the middle decades of the nineteenth century is described as "almost the equivalent of the later-day moving picture," to which the author devotes an entire chapter.

The local history movement in Minnesota is mentioned briefly by William D. Overman in an article on the "Relation of a State Historical Society to Local Historical Societies," appearing in the *Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Quarterly* for July. He observes that "in Minnesota a measure of cooperation has been effected through historical conferences and tours since 1921" and notes a recent plan for "coordinating all historical activity in that state."

The "present name, date formed, parent county, and county seat" of every county in the United States are given by F. Douglas Halverson in a mimeographed booklet entitled *County Histories of the United States* (65 p.). The counties are arranged alphabetically under the names of the states. Most of the information presented for Minnesota is easily accessible elsewhere.

Chapters on the "Early History of the St. Lawrence Seaway," on "Physical Features of the Great Lakes Basin and the River," and on "Diplomatic Correspondence and Treaties" are included in F. N. Menefee's recent volume on the *St. Lawrence Seaway* (Ann Arbor, 1940. 325 p.). The importance of Duluth as the "lake

city farthest from tidewater" is recognized by the author. Another recent volume on the same subject is the *St. Lawrence Seaway Project* by B. D. Tallamy and T. M. Sedweek, which has been issued by the Niagara Frontier Planning Board (Buffalo, 1940. 129 p.).

A volume on the *Railroad in Literature*, by Frank P. Donovan, Jr., has been published by the Railway and Locomotive Historical Society (Boston, 1940. 138 p.). There are chapters, each accompanied by a bibliography, dealing with fiction of various types, with poetry and songs, with biographies of railroad builders, with essays, with works of travel, and even with dramas and motion pictures.

A Preliminary Bibliography on the American Fur Trade, compiled by Stuart Cuthbertson and John C. Ewers, has been issued by the Jefferson National Expansion Memorial of St. Louis under the auspices of the National Park Service (1939. 191 p.). The publications included are listed by geographical areas; the first two, for example, deal with the "Fur Trade in New France" and the "Fur Trade of New England." Much of the material of Minnesota interest is listed in three sections, which bear the titles the "Fur Trade of the Great Lakes Region," the "Fur Trade of the Mississippi Valley," and the "Fur Trade of Hudson Bay and Western Canada." Both source materials and secondary accounts are included. Among them are numerous publications of the Minnesota Historical Society and books and articles by members of its staff.

Two volumes on the *Territory of Indiana*, 1800-10 and 1810-16, continue the series of *Territorial Papers of the United States* edited by Dr. Clarence E. Carter (Washington, 1939. vols. 7, 8—784, 496 p.). They show the same criteria of selection of documents that were evidenced in the earlier publications in the series (see *ante*, 16:202-205, 17:452, 19:217). While a portion of the present state of Minnesota was embraced within the territorial limits of Indiana Territory, it was Indian country; consequently, the actual jurisdiction of the officials—except in Indian affairs, which are only incidentally brought into these volumes—rarely if ever reached northward. The result is that for Minnesota history there are no documents. The student of Northwest history in general, however, will find a considerable mass of material hitherto virtually unavailable.

LESTER BURRELL SHIPPEE

The "mineralogical and chemical aspects of catlinite" from Minnesota, South Dakota, and Wisconsin are carefully analyzed and compared by David H. Howell in an article on "Pipestone and Red Shale Artifacts," in the July number of *American Antiquity*. He finds that specimens from these states are of the same general composition, but that they differ considerably from the red shale of similar appearance found in Arizona. The writer concludes that "it would appear advisable to apply the term catlinite to all that material which possesses the same mineral constituents, general chemical composition and physical properties as the Pipestone quarry material, regardless of color."

Two recent issues of the *Minnesota Archaeologist*, those for April and July, are devoted to copper and bone artifacts typical of Minnesota and the Northwest. The leading article in the "Copper Issue" is a discussion by R. H. Landon of the "Mining and Fabrication of Copper by the Aborigines of the Lake Superior Region." "Some Unusual Copper Artifacts in the Collection of the Minnesota Historical Society" are described by Richard R. Sackett in the same issue, and a "Schedule of Classification, Comparison, and Nomenclature for Copper Artifacts in Minnesota" is presented by George Flaskerd. Articles dealing with "Some Bone Articles of Minn. and Dakota Prehistoric Indian Sites" by Harvey Soulen, and with "Some Indian Bone Artifacts of the Historical Period from Minnesota and Surrounding Area" by B. W. Thayer appear in the July number. The fact that this periodical is issued in multigraphed form makes possible the reproduction of numerous drawings of the artifacts under discussion.

An attempt to write the "Chippewa language as they talk it today and as they did fifty years ago" is made by the late George M. Campbell in his recently published *Original Indian Dictionary of the Ojibway or Chippewa Language* (Minneapolis, 1940. 80 p.). The author spent some years of his early youth as a resident on the White Earth Indian Reservation, and he became a government interpreter in 1874. The impossibility of translating accurately many of the Chippewa words and phrases is brought out in the author's foreword. Brief notes on Indian dress, traditions, customs, and superstitions, and a "Code of Indian Laws" are included in the booklet.

A survey of "Indian Affairs" in Iowa Territory, which "extended north to the Canadian boundary, including most of Minnesota and the eastern half of the Dakotas," is presented by John E. Briggs in the *Palimpsest* for September. The affairs of the Sioux and the Winnebago and the activities of such government agents as Joseph M. Street and David Lowry figure in the narrative.

A "Historical Sketch of the Riggs-Williamsons in Dakota" was presented by Lawrence K. Fox in connection with services held on September 20 at the First Congregational Church of Pierre, South Dakota, in commemoration of the work of Stephen R. Riggs, the pioneer missionary. Riggs was active among the Minnesota Sioux for a quarter of a century before the outbreak, and after 1862 he followed them into Dakota. The program also honored his son, Thomas L. Riggs, who succeeded his father in the mission field.

The Sioux ghost dance of 1890 and the death of Sitting Bull are described by T. D. Lyons in an article entitled "Preparedness—1890," which appears in the *Commonweal* for September 20. The author also gives an excellent picture of his father's vast ranch near DeSmet. "There was a whole section of land fenced with barbed wire," he writes. "This, of course, was the pasture." In addition, there were "two school sections rented for hay land; an entire section put into corn; a half-section in barley; three quarter-sections in oats; eighty acres in millet; and five sections, 3,200 acres, in wheat."

"The greatest horse territory in the world now is the empire including most of Illinois, all of Iowa, southern Minnesota, the eastern halves of the Dakotas, Nebraska and Kansas, and a piece of northern Missouri. This region has nearly half of the horses in the United States." Thus writes Phil Stong in a recent volume dealing with *Horses and Americans* (New York, 1939), in which he describes the role of the horse in American life. Mr. Stong tells of the use of horses by explorers and Indians, by soldiers and farmers, by westward-trekking immigrants and polo-playing sportsmen. He includes discussions of such subjects as the anti-horse thief associations, stage-coach transportation, county and state fairs, and horse shows. Minnesotans will be specially interested in Mr. Stong's comments on Dan Patch, "undoubtedly the most famous race-horse that ever lived."

A contribution to the history of American sport is a volume by Frank J. Salvus entitled *One Hundred Years of Baseball* (St. Paul, 1938. 213 p.). The text consists for the most part of brief items, chronologically arranged, relating to games and players. The opening section describes the origin of the game in 1839; later sections carry the story down to the creation of the National and American leagues and into the twentieth century. Those who are interested in local baseball will find in the volume numerous references to Minnesota games and players. A recent state history of baseball is Harold C. Evans' "Baseball in Kansas, 1867-1940," in the *Kansas Historical Quarterly* for May.

O. E. Rølvaag's enthusiasm, leadership, and activities in organizing and directing the Norwegian-American Historical Association from its inception in 1925 until his death in 1931 are described in an article by Kenneth Bjørk entitled "The Unknown Rølvaag," which appears in volume 11 of *Norwegian-American Studies and Records* (1940. 183 p.). In the same volume, Nora O. Solum, co-author with Professor Theodore Jorgenson of a biography of Rølvaag, describes "The Sources of the Rølvaag Biography." Of interest to Minnesotans also are an account of "Jørgen Gjerdrum's Letters from America" by Carlton C. Qualey, and a discussion of "*A Doll's House* on the Prairie: The First Ibsen Controversy in America" by Arthur Paulson and Kenneth Bjørk. Gjerdrum was a Norwegian insurance company director who made an extended visit to the Norwegian settlements in America in 1874-75. Among the places on which he commented are St. Paul, "the heart of the emigrant's country," Minneapolis, Red Wing, Rushford, and other settlements in Goodhue and Houston counties. Two of the principals in the controversy over *A Doll's House* had lived in Minnesota. P. P. Iverslie, who fulminated against the moral and social implications of Nora's words in the pages of the Chicago newspaper *Norden* in 1880, farmed and taught in Minnesota and Wisconsin during the years from 1864 to 1901. He was answered by O. S. Herwin, who served at various times as editor of such Norwegian-American newspapers as *Nordvesten* and *Nationaltidende* of St. Paul and *Budstikken* of Minneapolis.

L. B.

"In Minnesota such Swedish terms as *lutfisk* (a fish delicacy) and *lefse* (a kind of potato pancake) are already quite as familiar as *schnits* in lower Pennsylvania or *gefüllte fish* in New York. If the things they designate ever work their way into the highly hospitable American cuisine, following *sauerkraut*, *spaghetti*, *chile con carne*, and *chow-mein*, the words will come along." Thus writes H. L. Mencken in an article on "Our Borrowed Vocabulary," in the *Saturday Review of Literature* for June 29. Mr. Mencken asserts that loan words from the Scandinavian languages are "now confined to the upper Middle West," but he expresses the belief that, like numerous terms brought in by other racial groups, "some of them may eventually work their way into the general American speech."

The history of the German Evangelical Church Society of the West, which had its origin in Missouri in 1840, is presented in great detail by Carl E. Schneider in a volume entitled *The German Church on the American Frontier: A Study in the Rise of Religion among the Germans of the West* (St. Louis, 1939. 579 p.). The book marks the centennial of the founding of the society, carrying the story only to 1866, when it became the German Evangelical Synod of the West. Very little space is devoted to the society's activities in Minnesota, since it "was late in entering" that state. The author records that the first pastor of the Missouri organization to serve in Minnesota was S. Weiss, who was stationed at Cannon City in Goodhue County in 1862 and at Wheeling in Rice County three years later.

In *My Seven Sons*, Lilian Washburn presents biographical sketches of the sons of Israel and Patty Washburn of Livermore, Maine (Portland, Maine, 1940. 143 p.). The writer uses the somewhat artificial device of telling the stories of these distinguished Mainites in the first person, with the elder Washburn as the narrator. Of the seven Washburns, two, William Drew and Cadwallader, played important roles in the development of Minneapolis milling as well as in western politics. Cadwallader became governor of Wisconsin, and William served in Congress both as a representative and a senator from Minnesota.

Though *Lee on the Levee* by Ralph Cannon (New York, Saravan House, 1940) is called "an historical novel" on the title page, it

is hardly that, either in conception or execution. It is rather a substitute for a historical essay on the services of Robert E. Lee in harnessing the Mississippi River at St. Louis through his hydraulic engineering skill, and on the friendship that sprang up between Lee and the now renowned Dr. William Beaumont during a year spent in St. Louis under the same roof. Unpublished letters written by the two men and their families in subsequent years have been utilized by the author. Though it is a slight little volume, with many evidences of the author's lack of mastery over his medium, it affords an appealing picture of two very unusual and gifted men attracted to each other by sheer force of personality. Alexis St. Martin, the voyageur on whom Dr. Beaumont made his famous experiments in digestive processes, is a figure in the book. G. L. N.

A Guide to the Manuscript Collections of the Oregon Historical Society prepared by the Oregon Historical Records Survey (Portland, 1940. 133 p.) includes 492 entries listed alphabetically by the names of the authors. Among the manuscripts included are nineteen letters of Dr. John McLoughlin, a prominent figure in the fur trade of both Minnesota and Oregon.

Fifty-two sketches of incidents in the history of "*Her Majesty Montana*," prepared by C. W. Towne for broadcasting under the auspices of the Montana Power Company, have been made available in book form (150 p.). These radio programs were planned in connection with the fiftieth anniversary of the state's admission to the Union in 1939.

Wisconsin Families, the new quarterly magazine of the Wisconsin Genealogical Society, promises to be of interest to historians as well as genealogists, to those concerned with Minnesota's as well as Wisconsin's past. The initial number, published in June, for example, contains some material from the census of 1820, including lists of residents of Crawford and Brown counties in that year. What was then Crawford County, Michigan, included large sections not only of the present state of Wisconsin, but of southeastern Minnesota as well. Names listed in the census of 1830 for the same county, and especially for Prairie du Chien, appear in the September issue. Many families with Minnesota connections, however, are included. Among

other sources on early families of the Middle West appearing in this periodical are "gravestone inscriptions" from old cemeteries, "Bible Records," and baptismal and vital records from old church books.

The role of Henry M. Rice of St. Paul in the founding of the Wisconsin settlement at the head of Lake Superior in 1854 is clearly brought out by Louise Phelps Kellogg in an interesting article on "The Rise and Fall of Old Superior," in the *Wisconsin Magazine of History* for September. Involved in the speculation were "some men from St. Paul who had first prospected" on the site, and several individuals of national prominence, including John C. Breckinridge, Stephen A. Douglas, and W. C. Corcoran. Dr. Kellogg confines herself to the history of the "old speculative Superior of 1854-58," which became the nucleus of the modern city. She discusses many phases of the history of the boom town of the fifties—the development of business ventures, the growth of shipping, transportation and travel in the vicinity, churches and schools, mail service, newspapers, and the experiences of individual settlers. In much of its development the pioneer settlement was closely connected with St. Paul and Stillwater, older communities to the south. Among the sources used by Dr. Kellogg are the letters of Mrs. Sarah Fairchild Dean, whose husband, Eliab B. Dean, was receiver of the land office at Superior. A portrait of Mrs. Dean, painted by Eastman Johnson while he was living in Superior, is reproduced with the present article.

"The White Pine Stump Fences of Pine Grove Village, Wisconsin" are described by C. B. Stott in the *American-German Review* for October. Two views of such fences, which are still in use in the German settlements of central Wisconsin, illustrate the article.

In *Badger Saints and Sinners* (Milwaukee, 1939), Fred L. Holmes presents biographical sketches of thirty-two Wisconsin residents whose contributions to the state's history varied greatly. There are outlined the stories of Father Samuel Mazzuchelli, a pioneer Catholic missionary; of Dr. William Beaumont and his "Human Stomach Laboratory"; of Increase A. Lapham, scientist; and of Al Ringling, whose career as a circus master and owner centered about Baraboo. Mr. Holmes devotes a chapter to a "Raconteur of the Bunk Houses," Eugene S. Shepard, who collected Paul Bunyan tales while working

as a timber cruiser. He tells also of the Reverend Alfred Brunson, a Methodist missionary who was active in Minnesota as well as in Wisconsin.

A dozen items relating to the backgrounds of *Historic Hudson, 1840-1940*, have been assembled by Willis H. Miller and published as an illustrated pamphlet (1940. 44 p.). The opening sketch is the "Biography of a Piano" which Mr. Miller contributed to *Minnesota History* for September, 1938, and which is here reprinted. Other items from his pen are a sketch of Silas Snell, a pioneer of 1847; a history of the "Cupola House," which was built in 1856; an account of the *Hudson Star-Observer*, the local newspaper that originated as the *North Star* in 1854; and an explanation of the origin of the name of "Nigger Coulee." Of more general interest for St. Croix Valley history are two contributions of Harold Weatherhead—a review of the "Growth of St. Croix County," Wisconsin, and an account of "Lumbering on the St. Croix River." An early Hudson hotel, the "Chapin Hall House," is the subject of a brief sketch by the same author. An interesting picture of "Hudson in the Booming Fifties" is supplied by Genevieve Cline Day. A few letters written in pioneer days from the settlement on the Wisconsin shore of the St. Croix are included. One, dated July 10, 1858, was sent by Henry Montman to his parents in Germany; it has been translated by Mrs. Otis H. King. There are also three letters written in 1864 and 1865 by Sarah Andrews to her brother James, who was serving with a Wisconsin regiment in the South. Included also are some selections from the memoirs of Caroline M. Goss, a pioneer resident of Hudson. Numerous illustrations add to the interest of this booklet. Among them are a view of Hudson in 1870, a picture of the cupola house, and a reproduction of a Civil War poster.

Phil Stong's *Hawkeyes, A Biography of the State of Iowa* (New York, 1940), the first of a series of proposed volumes to deal with the sovereign states, is a personal and impressionistic account of the commonwealth in which the author has spent the forty years of his life. The book stresses the obvious aspects of Iowa economy, the great fertility of the land, the agricultural surpluses, the basically agrarian social order, the "country town" facets of the few cities, as

well as the high rank of the state in such disparate matters as corn and pork production, literacy, tolerance, and democracy. It is written from the viewpoint of a rural dweller (or a part-time farmer); thus, although there are many references to meat packing and to the *Des Moines Register*, there is little discussion of Waterloo or Ottumwa or the state capital. Instead the author includes shrewd comments on the mental capacity, the temperament, and the peccadilloes of the Iowa farmer, not to forget an illuminating discussion of the role of the general store and its oracular owner in rural society. The book is in no sense a history of the state, but rather an interpretation of certain interesting features with a multitude of historical references and facts thrown in at random. Because of this impressionistic treatment the reader will find a great deal of discussion of farming, religion, and education but relatively little mention of politics, industry, and the fine arts. Mr. Stong's vivacity and humor and almost inexhaustible anecdotes make for a highly readable book; on the other hand, the style is often slovenly.

JOHN T. FLANAGAN

In a study of "Stagecoach Travel in Iowa" which appears in the *Annals of Iowa* for January, Kenneth E. Colton describes the roads over which stage traffic passed, the vehicles used after 1837, when the "first stage ran on regular schedules in Iowa," and the conditions of travel as recorded by those who saw the frontier while stage transportation was in use. He also tells something about stage rates and schedules, about stage drivers, and about the function of the stagecoach as the "regular carrier of unpublished news," of notes and messages, and even of freight.

A useful list of *Iowa Artists of the First Hundred Years* has been compiled by Zenobia B. Ness and Louise Orwig and published with a few illustrations from the work of those who have attained national reputations (1939. 253 p.). The compilers appear to have included all painters, sculptors, cartoonists, etchers, art educators, and the like who were born in Iowa or who have at some time lived in the state. An occasional name, like that of George Catlin, indicates that artists who left records of frontier life in the Mississippi Valley were not entirely overlooked.

In a *Brief History of Old Pembina, 1818-1932*, Father J. M. Belleau, who has served there as a priest since 1934, presents a chronology of the North Dakota community, giving special attention to the Catholic priests and missionaries of the Red River country (1939. 24 p.). The explorations of the La Vérendryes and the founding of the Red River settlement by Lord Selkirk are described as the background for the priestly activities of such men as Fathers Severe Dumoulin, Georges A. Belcourt, and Joseph Goiffon, and of Bishops Provencher and Tache.

Two Canadian studies that devote considerable space to the Selkirk settlement and the Red River country are Arthur S. Morton's "History of Prairie Settlement" and Chester Martin's "'Dominion Lands' Policy," published as volume 2 of *Canadian Frontiers of Settlement* (Toronto, 1938. 571 p.). Of special interest is a chapter on "Settlement and Agriculture in Fur-trading Times" in the earlier study, and a section on "The Selkirk Regime" in the latter. Both contain valuable material on railroad connections between Minnesota and Manitoba. Another recent account of the founding of the Red River settlement is to be found in a volume entitled *Canada, 1763-1841, Immigration and Settlement* by Norman Macdonald (New York, 1939. 577 p.). This writer presents a detailed and useful review of the "Selkirk Experiments" on the Red River and elsewhere.

"The story of the Hudson's Bay Company in Winnipeg is the story of a country's beginnings," writes Margaret Arnett MacLeod in an article on "The Company in Winnipeg" which appears in the September issue of the *Beaver*. From 1815, when a small log building that had been used as a "store on the east bank of the Red River at the mouth of the Assiniboine . . . was rafted over and re-erected on the west side," the author traces the story of the company's activities down through the era of Fidler's Fort and the period of the trading store at Fort Garry to the present retail store in modern Winnipeg. Among the many excellent illustrations that accompany this article are a picture of Fort Gibraltar, later Fort Garry, in 1821 and a sketch of a Red River settler's house, both from originals by Peter Rindisbacher in the Public Archives of Canada. The company's books, according to Mrs. MacLeod, record a "payment of

'six pounds nineteen shillings sterling,' involved in the transaction whereby a Swiss settler named Rindisbacher painted the colony pictures." In the same issue of the *Beaver* is an article, by the Reverend J. A. Cormie, on James Evans, the Wesleyan Methodist "Preacher and Printer." Special attention is given to the system of printing the Cree language that he worked out a century ago. Of more than usual interest also is a biographical sketch, by W. S. Wallace, of "Lord Selkirk's Ghost Writer," John Halkett.

At St. Anne des Chenes, near the western end of the old Dawson Route between Fort William and Winnipeg, a marker erected by the historic sites and monuments board of Canada was unveiled on August 3. It bears the following description of the Dawson Route: "This land and water route from Fort William to Red River was Canada's attempt to provide an all-Canadian highway linking the east with the prairies. Length 530 miles; surveyed 1858; begun 1868; completed in 1871." Since the route followed the Minnesota border waters from Namakan Lake to the Lake of the Woods, Minnesotans will be interested both in the marker and in an informing article on the history of the Dawson Route, by Margaret A. MacLeod, which appears in the *Winnipeg Free Press* for August 3. The writer discusses the importance of the route in the settlement of Manitoba, noting that immigrants by the hundreds followed this path in their journeys to the new province in the 1870's. A map showing the course of the Dawson Route appears with Mrs. MacLeod's article. In the *Free Press* for August 10, Roy St. George Stubbs tells the story of what he designates as the "West's Oldest Regiment," the 90th Battalion, which played an important role in suppressing the Riel rebellion of 1885. The creation of the "Public Archives of Canada as a national institution in 1872," the growth of its collections, and their importance for Canadians are brought out by J. A. Oastler in an article entitled "Canadian Archives" appearing in the *Free Press* for August 24.

GENERAL MINNESOTA ITEMS

Tourists and others who travel in Minnesota as well as those who are concerned with the state's history will find useful a *Guide to Historic Markers Erected by the State Highway Department Co-operating with the Minnesota Historical Society*, which has been

prepared and published by the Minnesota Historical Records Survey (1940. 39 p.). Therein are presented the title, the location, and the inscription on the 112 markers planned and erected since 1930 by two state agencies working co-operatively. In his preface to the *Guide*, Mr. Richard R. Sackett announces that this is the first of four publications "dealing exclusively with marked historic sites." It will be followed by pamphlets "devoted to markers erected by the Daughters of the American Revolution, markers and buildings dedicated to World War heroes, and historic markers in general that would not be included in the other three booklets." In the present pamphlet markers in the Twin Cities area and in the southeast, southwest, central, northeast, and northwest sections of the state appear in separate lists. A map showing these sections and indicating the location of each marker by number serves to clarify this system of arrangement. The user who might still find it difficult to locate a given marker can turn to the three indexes at the back of the pamphlet. In the first, markers are listed by trunk and United States highways, arranged numerically; in the second, they appear by counties; and in the third, by titles.

Four more volumes in the *Inventory of the County Archives of Minnesota* have been published recently by the Minnesota Historical Records Survey. They make available lists of the records preserved in the courthouses of Rock County at Luverne (no. 67—120 p.), of Sherburne County at Elk River (no. 71—172 p.), of Stearns County at St. Cloud (no. 73—171 p.), and of Wright County at Buffalo (no. 86—118 p.). Preceding the list of records in each volume, is a review of the history of the county. To its *Inventory of Federal Archives in the States*, the Historical Records Survey has added a volume in which are listed the records of the federal department of labor preserved in Minnesota (96 p.). The local offices of three branches of this department are represented—the immigration and naturalization service, the bureau of labor statistics, and the United States employment service.

During the past summer the site of the old Lac qui Parle mission, now included in the Chippewa-Lac qui Parle State Park on the upper Minnesota River near Montevideo and Watson, was the scene of a successful archaeological investigation. Among the sites excavated

were those of the mission chapel and of the houses of two missionaries, Stephen R. Riggs and Alexander Huggins. Unfortunately the stones used in the foundation and cellar walls of Riggs's house were removed many years ago; nevertheless by careful digging the cellar area was determined. The location of the log cabin occupied by Huggins, a lay helper and farmer connected with the mission, proved easier to outline, and many material remains were found on the site. Little or no evidence was found of the site of the house of Dr. Thomas S. Williamson, who established the mission in 1835. Workers were led to believe that the site was obliterated when a road was built over it more than half a century ago. The site of the chapel was accurately determined, and it is hoped in time that this building will be reconstructed and used as a museum. There, among other things, can be displayed the objects unearthed during the past season. Included are such items as a leather heel with the cobbler's pegs showing through, a beaver spear, a clay marble, a carved bone handle of an awl, bone pendants, a penny dated 1833, bits of slate pencils, a piece of a slate on which appears the word "Wapanton," and quantities of china, crockery, and glass fragments. The excavations at Lac qui Parle were conducted by the Minnesota division of state parks, under the sponsorship of the Chippewa County Historical Society, with labor supplied by a local WPA agency. The results of the work on this site provide new information about a frontier Presbyterian mission to the Minnesota Sioux and indicate that the restoration of some of the buildings will be worthwhile.

RICHARD R. SACKETT

"If one were seeking epoch-making dates" in the history of American climatology, "1819 might logically be chosen," writes Ralph H. Brown in a valuable survey of "The First Century of Meteorological Data in America," published in the *Monthly Weather Review* for May. He records that "in that year instrumental observations were first made by the military at Fort Snelling, Minn., initiating, so to speak, the official type of record. . . . Other Army posts soon followed the example of Fort Snelling; and by 1838 daily records were being made at 13 forts, mainly in the Midwest." Professor Brown describes the materials, often manuscript, upon which he bases his study, and presents a graph showing the "observation stations and the length of the record made at each" from 1738 to 1838. He asserts that the "inclusion of a station on this graph indicates that the data are avail-

able in the literature, though sometimes only in manuscript, and that they are believed to be accurate insofar as limited records can be." It is interesting to note that the graph shows a continuous record from 1819 to 1838 for Fort Snelling.

Five letters written in the summer of 1866 by Judson W. Bishop while engaged in surveying a section of southwestern Minnesota appear in the *Tracy Headlight-Herald* for September 13. The original letters, which were addressed to Bishop's sister, are still in the possession of members of the family. "I have a tract 24 miles N & S by 48 miles E & W to cut up into Townships 6 miles square," writes Bishop, in describing his work. The tract ran westward to the Dakota boundary. He was also to divide five townships into sections.

The beginnings of the Granger movement in Minnesota are described in an article by Joseph Ball which appears in three installments in the *Minnesota Grange Gleaner* of Braham for May 20, June 17, and July 15. The account was prepared for presentation at a meeting of the Minnehaha Grange. The objectives of the movement initiated by Oliver H. Kelley in 1868 and its growth during its first five years are touched upon in the second installment. Figures are presented to show the number of Granges organized in each state before July 19, 1873, and it is interesting to note that Minnesota leads with 2,891 organizations.

The fiftieth anniversary of the Minnesota State Federation of Labor was marked at its annual meeting, which convened at the St. Paul Auditorium on September 16. To mark the occasion, many items illustrative of the early history of the labor movement in Minnesota were placed on display. Included were charters granted to some of the state's pioneer labor organizations, minute books, copies of early labor newspapers, and the like.

The first superintendent of the Northwest Experiment Station and School of Agriculture at Crookston, Mr. T. A. Hoverstad of St. Paul, was among the speakers who participated in a celebration marking its forty-fifth anniversary on June 29. He told of the school during its first decade, from 1895 to 1905. The administrations of later superintendents were surveyed by the Honorable C. G. Selvig and Professor A. A. Dowell of the University Farm, and by the present head of the school, T. M. McCall.

That professional as well as business accounts have historical value is revealed by Dr. S. A. Allen in an article entitled "Dentistry Then and Now," which appears in *Oral Hygiene* for August. It deals with a daily record kept by Dr. H. W. Gould, a pioneer dentist at St. Anthony, while practicing there from 1859 to 1862 and later in Boston and California. The record reveals that in the "first Minnesota year 1859, the fees totaled \$1,614.50." The names of Dr. Gould's patients at St. Anthony are listed, descriptions of his work are given, and the fee charged is noted in the record, part of which is reproduced with the article.

Some ways in which "Pioneer Physicians Helped Develop the State of Minnesota" are described by Dr. John M. Armstrong in the *Minnesota Journal of Education* for September. "Due to lack of money and the scarcity of the population our pioneer physicians in many instances were obliged to pursue other occupations with their profession in order to make a living," writes Dr. Armstrong. He gives sketches of several pioneers of medicine in the state, and notes that "they filled many offices other than those necessitating a medical education." Among them are Dr. Edward Purcell of Fort Snelling, Dr. Christopher Carli of Stillwater, Dr. James J. Dewey and Dr. Thomas R. Potts of St. Paul, and Dr. Alfred E. Ames of Minneapolis.

That the first successful "Cholecystectomy in America" was performed by Dr. Justus Ohage of St. Paul in 1886 is brought out by Dr. Charles E. Rea in a brief article appearing in *Minnesota Medicine* for September. The operation performed at St. Joseph's Hospital by the pioneer St. Paul surgeon is, according to Dr. Rea, the "twenty-second case reported in medical literature." The author presents a report of the case and tells something about Dr. Ohage's training and contributions to medical science. Installments of a "History of Medicine in Winona County" continue to appear in *Minnesota Medicine* (see *ante*, p. 329). The sections published in the July, August, and September issues consist of biographical sketches of Winona County physicians.

An appreciative comment on the "Influence of the Mayo Brothers on Modern Surgical Progress," by Dr. Edoardo Bello of Lima, Peru, appears in the August number of the *Journal of the International*

College of Surgeons. The writer emphasizes the importance of the "pioneering efforts of the Mayos in the development of hospital care," tells of the institutions that the brothers established in Rochester, and takes pride in the fact "that in our country organizations are perfecting themselves along the path blazed by these pathfinders."

A sketch of William J. Conard, who served as a Congregational missionary in northern Minnesota after 1889 and filled pulpits at Park Rapids, Mankato, and other places in the state, is included in a genealogical work by T. A. Cutting entitled *Cutting Kin* (1939. 220 p.). Some of Conard's experiences as a Minnesota missionary are described.

In "Some Notes on the Growth of Population in Minnesota," published in the October number of the *Geographical Review*, Leonard S. Wilson of Carleton College presents a general survey of settlement in the state and shows its relationship to certain phases of agriculture, particularly wheat raising. On two series of maps, each of which covers the period from 1870 to 1930, he illustrates population growth and the growth and decline of wheat production. Unfortunately certain errors have crept into both the text and the maps. Minneapolis, which was not platted until 1854, is shown as a center of settlement on a map of the state in 1850, and in the text it is mentioned as one of the three "principal towns" in Minnesota in the same year. Although the author notes that between 1837 and 1850 population centered in the "delta region" between the St. Croix and the Mississippi, he overlooks the lumber industry that was so important in this area and states that the early Minnesotans were "engaged in the pioneer exploitation of furs."

A monument honoring Hazen Mooers, a pioneer trader of the Minnesota Valley, was dedicated in the old military cemetery at Fort Ridgely on September 15. The monument, which is the gift of Mr. B. J. Krahn of New Ulm, is described in the *New Ulm Daily Journal* for September 10. The dedication address was presented by Mr. Fred Johnson, president of the Brown County Historical Society, who reviewed the story of Mooers's career. Other speakers on the program included Henry N. Benson of St. Peter and Mayor Victor Rheim of New Ulm. A report of Mr. Johnson's talk appears in the *Fairfax Standard* for September 19. Fort Ridgely State Park

was the scene of another gathering on August 22, when the seventy-eighth anniversary of the attack on Fort Ridgely by the Sioux in the uprising of 1862 was commemorated.

An appeal to the people of New Ulm, Morton, Morgan, and Redwood Falls to "take stock of our historic resources" is made in the *Morgan Messenger* of July 25. Its readers are reminded that in the vicinity of these communities are the sites of numerous Sioux War battles, of frontier trading posts, of pioneer missions, of once populous Indian villages. These sites, the paper suggests, should be appropriately marked and should be connected by a "Sioux Historic Drive."

Plans for a marker to be placed on the site of the Sioux village of Kaposia near South St. Paul are announced in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for July 21. A committee, of which Mrs. Charles T. Burnley is chairman, has charge of the plans.

The story of the Mesabi Range figures prominently in a chapter by N. Yaworski and O. E. Kiessling on "Changes in Labor Requirements and Technology at Open-pit Mines," which appears in a longer study of *Technology, Employment, and Output per Man in Iron Mining*, issued by the WPA in co-operation with the federal bureau of mines (Philadelphia, 1940. 264 p.). Within two decades of the first ore shipment from the Mesabi, according to these writers, the Minnesota range "was producing more than half of all the iron ore produced in the United States and more than four-fifths of the total output from open pits."

The days in the last two decades of the nineteenth century "When Iron Ore and Timber Were Rivals" on the Mesabi Range are recalled in *Skilling's Mining Review* for August 24. An article in this issue tells of the activities of the lumber firm of A. W. Wright and Charles Davis of Saginaw, Michigan, whose timber holdings extended over the range country. They built the Duluth, Mississippi River and Northern Railroad, "known all over northern Minnesota as the Wooden Shoe." The line, according to this account, and the firm's other Minnesota properties were acquired about 1900 by James J. Hill.

Peter Gideon is described as the "Johnny Appleseed" of the Middle West in the *Minnetonka Record* for September 5, which devotes several columns to an account of the experiments that resulted in the development of the Wealthy apple. Included are a brief sketch of Gideon's life; some items about his work from the papers of a friend and associate at Lake Minnetonka, Rollo Stubbs; and some recollections of Gideon's daughter, Mrs. Florence G. Webster of Eveleth. An account of Gale Island near Excelsior and of the names by which it has been known is contributed to the same issue of the *Record* by Harlow Gale.

An appeal "To Save Nerstrand Woods" near Northfield and to establish a state park in this area is made by Kenneth D. Morrison in the *M. A. C. Gopher* for September. At Nerstrand, the writer explains, "is the last remnant of the historic Big Woods, one-time dense forest of hardwoods in the heart of the state." Not only is the area historically significant, but plants no longer found elsewhere in Minnesota are still to be seen there.

The first issue of the *Conservation Volunteer*, a monthly publication of the Minnesota department of conservation, appeared in October. Apparently the magazine will publish some items of historical interest. The initial number, for example, includes an account of a "Minnesota Wild Rice Scene" by Hermoine Gordon, and a comparison, by Thaddeus Surber, of "Minnesota Moose" on Lake Superior in 1922 and 1940.

LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

Although the local historical museum in the H. C. Bull Memorial Library at Cokato has evolved without the sponsorship of a local historical society, it is not inappropriate to include an account of it in this section. In building up its museum, the Cokato community has had the enthusiastic leadership of members of the Peterson family—the late C. R. Peterson, his son, Mr. R. M. Peterson, who succeeded his father as chairman of the library board, and Mrs. Peterson, who co-operated with her husband in arranging the collections in the present quarters.

The museum is housed in a large room with an alcove in the basement of the library building that H. C. Bull presented to his home

community. It is fitting that some of his personal collections should be preserved and exhibited there. Included, for example, are his coin collection, which fills two floor cases, and various pieces of Victorian furniture that were used in his home. For the most part, however, the Cokato collection consists of domestic and agricultural implements characteristic of those used by the Scandinavian pioneers who settled in this section of Wright County. A large part of the material was assembled by C. R. Peterson before his death in 1932.

Among the many domestic articles in the collection, are coffee mills, candle molds, mortars, a hand grinder used in making coarse wheat flour, numerous kitchen utensils of wood, candle lanterns, churns, and the like. An interesting item is a whisk made of willow twigs, which was used for whipping cream, beating eggs, and even for making butter. The domestic arts are illustrated by a large loom, yarn winders of various types, a number of spinning wheels, and a group of weavers' reeds. Homemade farm implements include a wooden corn planter, grain scoops, shovels, and ox yokes. Mention should be made also of a broadax and of some bog shoes used on horses. In a case devoted to pioneer footgear and related materials are displayed such items as various types of wooden shoes with the tools used in making them, some handmade wooden skates, a pair of high leather boots, and iron heelplates manufactured by a pioneer shoemaker.

A few items illustrative of pioneer cultural interests are included. The museum has, for example, the primitive press on which was printed the first Cokato newspaper. Of interest also is a quaint stringed musical instrument, known as a "psalmodikom," which was used by a group of early settlers of the vicinity in connection with their church services. Some Bibles which contain manuscript records of births and deaths in local families are on display.

Of outstanding interest in the Cokato museum is the huge collection of miniature reproductions of pioneer domestic and agricultural objects and buildings made and presented by Mr. Carl Good of Stockholm Township. Mr. Good's parents were among the Swedish pioneers who settled in this township in the late 1860's, and he has been concerned with the way they lived and worked while establishing homes and farms on the Minnesota frontier. Using his own special skill as a wood carver, he has fashioned in miniature hundreds of objects that were familiar parts of his boyhood environment.

In one group, Mr. Good has reproduced his father's farmstead, with its log house, barn, and outbuildings. On a larger scale he shows the interior of the cabin and its furnishings. The roof has been removed from this model, making it possible to look down upon a snug frontier interior. Separate models of the exteriors of other log buildings also are included in the collection—a barn, a granary, a corncrib, a summer kitchen, a pig house, a well house, and a school-house. Of special interest are models illustrating four types of fence construction familiar to Stockholm Township pioneers.

In addition to these larger objects, Mr. Good has reproduced hundreds of utensils used on the farm and in the home. He has made no attempt to build them to scale, but has made them all large enough to show the details of construction. Thus a model of a lantern and a churn may be of equal size. Only a few of these items can be mentioned here. Among the more interesting are several types of wagons used on the frontier farm, three kinds of beds common in log cabins, a complicated wooden lock used on farm buildings, and the breadboard and baking equipment used by the pioneer housewife.

Most of the objects in the Cokato museum are displayed in floor cases designed by Mr. Peterson. With Mrs. Peterson's assistance, he has arranged the exhibits attractively and identified many unusual and obscure pieces. The task of preparing the easily read hand-lettered labels has fallen on Mrs. Peterson. The museum opened in its present quarters late last May. During the four months that followed nearly five hundred people who registered visited the museum, despite the fact that it was open only one evening a week. Groups of school children from rural districts are not included in this figure. The Cokato museum illustrates an interest in the folkways of the pioneer that doubtless is dormant in many a Minnesota community.

B. L. H.

About four hundred people attended the summer meeting and picnic of the Blue Earth County Historical Society at Sibley Park on August 8. Mr. George S. Hage of Madelia, president of the Watonwan County Historical Society, was the principal speaker. The following officers were elected: Mr. B. F. Pay of Mankato, president; Mr. Grant Hazel of Sterling, vice-president; and Mr. E. Raymond Hughes of Mankato, secretary and treasurer.

The Carver County Historical Society, which was organized in April (see *ante*, p. 333), is making a special effort to assemble appropriate materials for display in its museum at Mayer. After meeting at Waconia on July 19, the society's executive board issued an appeal for objects illustrative of pioneer life in the county. Plans were made also for an exhibit at the county fair in August.

A visit to the excavations in the vicinity of the old Lac qui Parle mission (see *ante*, p. 434) was arranged by the Chippewa County Historical Society on July 9. Some sixty people viewed the sites of the mission chapel and the houses occupied by the missionaries and saw some of the articles discovered during the excavations. Mr. Richard R. Sackett, who has been in charge of the work on this site for the Minnesota division of state parks, explained the excavations and described some of their results. An interview with Mr. Sackett, with some account of the excavations at Lac qui Parle, appears in the *Montevideo News* for July 4.

An address by Mr. Otto E. Wieland, president of the St. Louis County Historical Society, and a visit to the restored stockade and great hall at Grand Portage were features of a meeting of the Cook County Historical Society, which was held at Grand Portage on September 29. The officers of the society are Mrs. Peter Allard, president, Mrs. Effie M. McLean, secretary, and Mrs. Anne Sundquist, treasurer.

Plans for monthly meetings at each of which some phase of local history will be featured were outlined at a meeting of the Douglas County Historical Society held at Alexandria on September 5. The systematic collecting of museum objects and the sponsorship by the society of a local history essay contest in the schools also were planned.

Mrs. J. C. Mills of Preston draws upon the collections of the Fillmore County Historical Society for some interesting items relating to early "Fillmore County History" appearing in the *Preston Times* for July 4. For example she tells of the diary, now in the possession of the society, kept in 1853 by Lepha Ann Carter during a journey from Michigan to Fillmore County. The diarist's father, Gulielmus Carter, was one of the first to settle in Sumner Township.

A trained museum worker, Mr. Norman A. Geske, has been named supervisor of the WPA project activities of the Hennepin County Historical Society. Under his direction, the museum in the Village Hall at St. Louis Park has been enlarged, additional storage and display equipment is being provided, and the collections themselves are being reorganized and rearranged. Plans are under way for a program of extension service by which the society will co-operate with the public schools of the county.

At a meeting held at Willmar on September 12, the Kandiyohi County Old Settlers Association was reorganized as the Kandiyohi County Historical Society. Members of the earlier organization were automatically taken into the new society, which has opened its membership to all who are interested in its objectives. Mr. A. P. Bergeson was named president of the society, Mr. Martin Leaf is first vice-president, Mr. J. A. Jensen, second vice-president, and Mr. A. O. Forsberg is secretary and treasurer. The principal address at the meeting was presented by Dr. Arthur J. Larsen, superintendent of the state historical society, who discussed the work of a local historical group, with special reference to Kandiyohi County. His address appears in full in the *Willmar Daily Tribune* for September 13; the society's constitution is published in the issue of the same paper for September 14.

A valuable collection of Minnesota newspapers assembled by Mr. Harold Swenson of New London and recently presented to the Kandiyohi County Historical Society is described in the editorial column of the *Willmar Tribune* for August 3. Included are extensive files of New London and Willmar newspapers dating from the 1880's.

A county-wide historical organization for McLeod County, incorporating the old Hutchinson Historical Society, was established as the result of a meeting held at Hutchinson on September 21. Most of the townships in McLeod County were represented among the forty people who attended the meeting. Mr. S. S. Beach and Mrs. Sophie P. White of the Hutchinson society were named temporary president and secretary of the new organization, and a committee of twelve was appointed to draw up a constitution and formulate plans for future action. Dr. Arthur J. Larsen, superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society, addressed the Hutchinson meeting and

suggested plans for the organization and work of the new society. The Hutchinson society was active during the summer, publishing items about its activities and accessions in the local papers and arranging a successful tour to Fort Ridgely State Park on July 25. At this meeting on the site of old Fort Ridgely, the history of the military post was reviewed by Mr. Frank Hopkins of Fairfax, recollections of a childhood in its vicinity were presented by Mrs. W. B. Hopper of Hutchinson, and the Hutchinson museum was described by Mr. Beach. The tourists were given ample opportunity to view the exhibits in the Fort Ridgely museum.

A marker honoring the memory of Charles Wentzel, a pioneer settler at Warren, was dedicated on July 28 in connection with the annual joint picnic of the Marshall County Historical Society and the Marshall-Kittson County Old Settlers Association. The marker, which is located in Island Park, bears the following inscription: "On the banks of the Snake River, across from this park, Charles Wentzel established the first home in the Warren community on June 1, 1874. Erected in 1940 by the Marshall County Historical Society." The dedication services were conducted by Nels M. Engen, who reviewed Wentzel's career. A number of the pioneer's descendants were present at the meeting, which was attended by about eighteen hundred people.

A joint meeting with the Watonwan County Historical Society at Watona Park near Madelia marked the twelfth annual tour of the Martin County Historical Society. About a thousand people attended the meeting, which was held on August 25. Judge Julius E. Haycraft, president of the Martin County society, presided; among the speakers were Major Arthur M. Nelson of the same organization, and Mr. George S. Hage and Mr. E. L. Gove of the Watonwan County society. Quotations from Mr. Hage's talk appear under the heading "Watonwan River Anthology" in the *Fairmont Daily Sentinel* for August 30. An extensive collection of pictures, maps, manuscripts, and objects illustrative of pioneer life was placed on display in connection with the meeting. Commenting on the exhibit, the *Madelia Times-Messenger* of August 30 makes the suggestion that Watonwan County "should have a building for housing all these invaluable articles."

Recent accessions of the Morrison County Historical Society described in the *Little Falls Daily Transcript* for September 14 include an interesting group of pictures, Indian objects, and other items from Mrs. Mary A. Harker of Warroad. All belonged to or illustrate the career of her father, Nathan Richardson, one of the organizers of Morrison County.

Mr. John F. Flynn of Worthington was named president of the Nobles County Historical Society at a meeting held at Worthington on August 18. Other officers elected at the same time include A. C. Constable of Deward Township, vice-president, Milton Ludlow of Worthington, treasurer, and Oscar A. Kunzman of Worthington, secretary. An address was presented by Judge Charles A. Flinn of Windom.

Photographs of fifty men prominent in the professional and business life of Rochester were presented recently to the Olmsted County Historical Society by Mr. Eugene Cutshall, a Rochester photographer. The donor has agreed to add to this important collection of portraits from time to time. A list of those whose portraits are included in the present collection appears in the *Rochester Post-Bulletin* for September 14.

Visitors from more than twenty places in Minnesota, from eight other states, and from Canada registered in the museum of the Otter Tail County Historical Society during July, according to the *Fergus Falls Daily Journal* for July 29. In recording these figures, Mr. E. T. Barnard, the society's secretary, remarks that the museum "really draws a good many people to Fergus Falls."

The history of St. James School for Boys at Faribault was reviewed by Frederick E. Jenkins, its headmaster since 1901, in a paper presented before a meeting of the Rice County Historical Society, held at the school on August 23. Other features of the program were an account, by Carl L. Weicht of Northfield, of the 1940 summer tour and convention of the Minnesota Historical Society, and a report on the Rice County society's museum by its curator, Mrs. H. C. Theopold of Faribault. Mr. Jenkins' interesting and valuable paper appears in full in the *Faribault Daily News* for August 27.

To four honor students from schools in the vicinity of Lake Bronson, the local post of the American Legion awarded a trip to Roseau on August 22 for the purpose of visiting the museum of the Roseau County Historical Society. A report on the museum by one of the group appears in the *Lake Bronson Budget* for August 29.

In connection with the county fair, the Todd County Historical Society arranged a special program, with Judge Anton Thompson of Fergus Falls as the speaker, on August 8. A collection of pioneer objects was displayed in a log cabin on the grounds during the fair.

A pioneer cabin formerly located on the farm of the late John Oleson in New Richland Township has been removed to Waseca and reconstructed there for the use of the Waseca County Historical Society. A legacy of three hundred dollars from Mr. Oleson enabled the society to finance the project. The cabin is marked with a plaque recording that it was originally erected in 1862.

Mr. E. L. Roney, president of the Washington County Historical Society, announced recently that his organization has acquired the house formerly occupied by the warden of the Minnesota State Prison at Stillwater. The structure will be equipped as a museum and used for housing the historical society's extensive collections.

At a meeting of the Yellow Medicine County Historical Society held at Granite Falls on July 24, the following officers were elected: Telford V. Oraas, president; N. A. Simonson, vice-president; John Kise, secretary; and Fred Gillingham, treasurer. On September 29 the society held a meeting at Granite Falls. Among the speakers who presented reminiscent talks were Mr. Andrew Davidson of Renville County, Mr. Anton Brusven of Normania Township, and Mr. K. K. Solberg of Clarkfield.

LOCAL HISTORY ITEMS

To mark the sixtieth anniversary of her arrival in Aitkin, Mrs. E. J. Goward recalls some of her early experiences in the community and the county in an interview published in the *Aitkin Republican* for July 3. As a girl Serena Haugen left Norway to join a brother and sister in Aitkin, where she attended school for several years before entering the St. Cloud Normal School. Mrs. Goward tells of

her later experiences as a teacher in the country schools of Aitkin County and later as county superintendent of schools. A picture of the cart and pony that she used to traverse the rough roads of the locality while occupying the latter position appears with the article.

The route followed by the Red River trail through Anoka County is being traced by P. A. Paulson of Anoka and will eventually be marked, according to an announcement in the *Anoka Union* for September 4. Some early maps showing roads and trails in the vicinity are being used by Mr. Paulson in connection with the work.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the Blackduck Co-operative Creamery is the occasion for the publication of several articles about its history in the *Blackduck American* for July 11. The Beltrami County community's public library, which had its origin in 1908, is the subject of a sketch in the *American* for September 5.

Mankato at the turn of the century is the setting for Maud Hart Lovelace's newest book, *Betsy-Tacy* (New York, 1940). An excellent picture of social life in the Minnesota Valley community is presented in this delightful story for children.

Many phases of Clay County and Red River Valley history are exploited in the *Country Press* of Moorhead for September 6, which is a fiftieth anniversary edition. Most of the articles of historical interest appear in a forty-eight-page supplement, in which the story of the paper itself, which was founded in Barnesville as the *Independent* in 1890 and removed to Moorhead in 1891, appears as the leading article. That the first Clay County newspaper appeared at Glyndon in June, 1872, is brought out in a survey of thirty-one publications launched before the turn of the century. There is an account of the beginning of settlement in Clay County and of its organization in 1872, an article on the founding of Moorhead, and several dealing with special features of its development, such as the schools, the park system, and the post office. Agriculture receives its share of attention, with articles on spring wheat raising and the development of bonanza farms, on the growth in importance of the potato crop, and on truck gardening. Sketches of a number of Clay County communities are included — Ulen, Glyndon, Hawley, Hitterdal, Felton, Barnesville — and the story of the English Yoevil colony of 1873 is reviewed.

Considerable space is devoted to an account of the Hudson's Bay Company's post at Georgetown; much of the material presented is quoted from a report received from the company in London by the Clay County Historical Society. The resources of this local society were used extensively in the preparation of the anniversary issue, and a special article dealing with its activities is included.

A wealth of material about Cook County is made available by Darrell H. Davis in an article entitled "Return of the Forest in Northeastern Minnesota," which appears in *Economic Geography* for April. Some attention is given to early settlement, especially at Grand Portage and Grand Marais, and the growth and racial composition of the population are discussed. The bulk of the article, however, is devoted to economic conditions in this part of the Arrowhead, with sections on agriculture, commercial fishing, the resort industry, and lumbering.

The review of Dakota County history prepared by the Minnesota Historical Records Survey for its inventory of the archives of that county (see *ante*, p. 327) is reprinted in installments in the *Dakota County Tribune* of Farmington from July 19 to 26.

The beginnings of the First Presbyterian Church of Preston are recorded in a pamphlet issued to commemorate its seventy-fifth anniversary (1940. 15 p.). From its early records are drawn an account of the organization of the church in June, 1865, and a list of the original members.

The history of the Round Prairie Norwegian Lutheran Church in Freeborn County is the subject of an article, in the *Evening Tribune* of Albert Lea for September 20, by Dr. Ignatius Bjorlee of Frederick, Maryland, a son of one of the Norwegian pioneers who founded the congregation in 1870.

The daughter of one of the "First Settlers in the Zumbrota Community," Miss Olive Ringdahl, tells of the beginnings of this pioneer Goodhue County settlement in the *Zumbrota News* for July 5. She names many of the Norwegian immigrants who established homes there in the 1850's and describes the frontier conditions under which they lived. Her parents, Mathias and Ingeborg Ringdahl, she relates, arrived in the spring of 1855. "They came in the usual ox-

drawn, covered wagon, behind which was tied one cow," she writes. Among their few possessions were a stove, a bed, two trunks, and a "large flat topped emigrant chest" that "served as table, pantry and storage room" in the new household.

Numerous articles about old St. Anthony appear in the fiftieth anniversary edition of the *East Minneapolis Argus*, issued on September 6. They deal with such subjects as the suspension bridge erected between St. Anthony and Minneapolis in 1855, the founding of the *Argus* by A. S. Dukinfield and its subsequent growth, the Northeast Neighborhood House and other welfare agencies of the vicinity, early sawmills at the Falls of St. Anthony, and the beginning of settlement at the falls.

Such important figures in the history of the Episcopal church in Minnesota as Bishop Jackson Kemper, Bishop Henry B. Whipple, and the Reverend E. G. Gear have parts in the story of the Gethsemane Episcopal Church of Minneapolis, as it is reviewed in *Golfer and Sportsman* for July. The beginnings of this pioneer church in the 1850's, the services of the Reverend David B. Knickerbacker as its first minister, and its subsequent growth are described in the present article, which bears the title "Restoration for History."

A "Short History of the Houston County Fair" since 1912, when the first fair was held, appears in the *Houston Signal* for September 5. The organization of the Houston County Agricultural Society is recalled, an account of the first fair is presented, displays of later years are described, and those who have worked for the improvement of the fair are named.

The story of a log cabin, originally erected in Christiania Township, Jackson County, and recently removed to Windom, is reviewed in the *Mankato Free Press* for August 31. It was built, according to this account, in 1868 by M. O. Monson and Thomas Chesterson, and it was used as a residence until 1902. In Windom it is to be restored and used for the display of frontier furniture.

The role of the Great Northern Railroad in the story of Willmar is revealed in numerous articles appearing in the *Willmar Daily Tribune* for July 1, which calls attention to the seventieth anniversary of the building of the railroad through Kandiyohi County. Although

Willmar was founded in 1869 and the St. Paul and Pacific, the forerunner of the Great Northern, reached the village in November of that year, "it was in the spring of 1870 that actual railroading began at Willmar and the first full year of such service became a reality." Among those whose recollections of early railroad experiences appear in the issue are Mrs. C. B. Carlson, who arrived on the first regular train to reach the community; Mr. R. E. Landis, who was trainmaster at Willmar in 1912; Mr. D. N. Tallman, who tells of his meetings with James J. Hill; Mr. Peter Bonde, who participated in the railroad strike of 1894; and E. P. Truedson, a survivor of the wreck of 1882.

"Bonanza farming . . . forms the background for the history of the village of Kennedy," a community that was once the "headquarters for four great farming enterprises," according to an article appearing in the fortieth anniversary edition of the *Kennedy Star*. This issue, published on August 29, includes an account of the Kennedy Land and Town Company, which was active in Kittson County in the 1880's. Other articles in the issue deal with the history of the *Star*, with business enterprises at Kennedy, and with the village churches.

The history of "Border Journalism" is featured in the *Daily Journal* of International Falls for July 25, which thus gives local significance to the international celebration of the five-hundredth anniversary of the invention of printing. Included in a special typographical display, arranged by the *Journal* to mark the anniversary, were copies of several early Koochiching County newspapers. The founding of these and other newspapers of the border country are described in one article, which relates that the first of the group was the *Rainy Lake Journal*, established by Frank J. Bowman and U. M. Thomas "at the time of the Rainy Lake gold boom in 1894." The first International Falls paper, according to this account, was the *Border Budget*, established in 1898. Among other articles of special historical interest in this issue of the *Journal* are sketches of early newspaper publishers in the vicinity of International Falls, by the late H. J. Miner; a review of the history of the papers published at Fort Frances, by R. H. Larson; an account of the *Big Fork Compass*, which began publication in 1903; and a sketch of the local typographical union, organized in 1915. A wealth of material about an

important International Falls industry, that represented by the Minnesota and Ontario Paper Company, appears in the *Journal* for September 20. Special attention is given to the thirtieth anniversary of paper manufacturing in the border city. One article is devoted to the story of the development in the local mills of a process by which the structural building board known as Insulite is manufactured.

Forty-eight pages devoted largely to articles about the history of Hutchinson and McLeod County combine to make up the sixtieth anniversary edition of the *Hutchinson Leader*, published on July 19. The paper's "first front page," from the issue of July 10, 1880, is reproduced on the first page of the present number beside an account of its founding and later history. There, too, are accounts of the services of some of the men who have been prominently connected with the *Leader* — Cal P. Smith, the founder; Burt W. Day; the Avery brothers, Carlos and Percy; and W. F. Schilling. Numerous articles on other business enterprises in Hutchinson and its vicinity are included. The beginnings of settlement in the county are recorded in an article which gives special attention to Glencoe as the "county's first permanent settlement." Another article tells of the arrival there on November 19, 1855, of the party that organized a townsite company after staking out claims. The role in this story of the Hutchinson brothers, members of a famous family of singers, is well known. Other towns and villages that are the subjects of historical reviews include Biscay, Corvuso, Cosmos, Stewart, Brownton, Winsted, Lester Prairie, and Silver Lake. Special articles are devoted to Czech and German settlement in McLeod County, to early roads, to the academy established by W. W. Pendergast at Hutchinson in 1860, and to the McLeod Farm Bureau. A list of settlers in the county in 1860 is printed from the census of that year. A sketch of Martin McLeod, for whom the county was named, appears with extensive quotations from his diary. Scores of portraits of pioneers and early views of Hutchinson illustrate the issue.

One of the earliest co-operative creameries in Minnesota, the Danielson creamery at Rosendale in Meeker County, is the subject of an article in the *Meeker County News* of Litchfield for July 25. The creamery, which was organized in 1890, celebrated its fiftieth anniversary on July 28.

A list of terms used in the lumber camps of Morrison County has been compiled by Val Kasperek and published in the *Little Falls Daily Transcript* for August 8. A definition is provided for each expression in what the newspaper designates as a "dying language."

Some detailed information about a German settlement at Swanville in Morrison County is included in a congregational history, issued to mark the fiftieth anniversary of St. Peter's Evangelical Lutheran Church (1940. 16 p.). The author, the Reverend Paul Walther, names many of the early settlers in the locality and tells of the work among them of such pioneer Lutheran missionaries of the 1870's as the Reverend Heinrich Vetter. He includes records of the beginnings of the village in 1882 and of the organization of the congregation in 1890.

The beginnings of the public school system of Austin in 1855, when the community's first school was opened in a log cabin with Miss Maria Vaughan as the teacher, are recalled in a brief article in the *Austin Daily Herald* for September 23. An entire section of the issue is devoted to the new school building opened in Austin in September.

Articles on pioneer life in Mower County by Mrs. A. G. Thompson continue to appear in the *Austin Daily Herald* (see *ante*, p. 222). In the issue of April 20, for example, the writer tells of the experiences of Mrs. Sally Brown Hill during a journey by covered wagon in 1857 from Oshkosh, Wisconsin, to Brownsdale in Mower County, and notes that the events of the trip of thirty-eight days are recorded in a diary kept by Mrs. Hill. Other articles deal with such subjects as the influence of the pioneer editors in promoting settlement, May 18, and the organization of a volunteer fire department at Austin, June 1.

A History of the Church of the Immaculate Conception of St. Peter, compiled by its pastor, the Reverend R. A. Neudecker, was issued to commemorate its fiftieth anniversary on December 10, 1939 (45 p.). Although the church was not founded until 1889, Catholic activities at St. Peter began in the 1840's, and the story of the congregation is traced back into that decade. The history of the German Catholic church at St. Peter is reviewed from 1889 to the present, bio-

graphical sketches of pastors who have served as leaders of the parish are presented, and brief accounts of parish organizations are included.

To mark the "completion of 50 years of continuous publication," the *Stewartville Star* issued a special "historical edition" on August 15. Among the numerous articles in the issue are several on the early history of the community by C. A. Duncanson. He tells of the arrival in the 1850's of five families who, after a journey from Wisconsin in covered wagons, became the first settlers in the vicinity; of the flour mill, erected in 1856, about which the future village grew; and of the beginnings of mail service in the community. There are brief accounts of local churches, Catholic and Protestant; sketches of clubs, such as the Monday Study Club and the Home Economics Club, accounts of the local schools, the fire department, and of telephone and electric service; and a brief history of the *Star*.

The "development of aviation facilities in Rochester" since 1928 is briefly reviewed in the *Rochester Post-Bulletin* for August 2, which also contains a report of the dedication of a new airport for the city. Its first airfield was established in 1928 by an organization known as the Rochester Airways, which rented a farm for the purpose.

Some recollections of Mr. Walter P. Clayton of Hatfield, a pioneer who settled in Pipestone County in 1877, appear in the *Pipestone County Star* for July 9. With his parents, Mr. and Mrs. L. J. Clayton, the writer traveled from Rochester to southwestern Minnesota in wagons drawn by horses and oxen. They settled on a prairie claim, building a "sod house and a barn which was covered with poles and coarse slough hay."

The *Wanderer* of St. Paul continues to publish histories of Catholic parishes in Minnesota and the Northwest. Among the sketches appearing during the summer months is one, in the issue for August 1, dealing with the parish of St. John the Evangelist at New Canada, which marked its ninetieth anniversary on August 11. Among the priests who served in this French-Canadian community in the 1850's and 1860's, were Fathers Jean Fayolle, Augustin Ravoux, and Joseph Goiffon.

A survey of "75 Years of Child Care" in St. Paul is presented in a feature article in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for July 7. It reviews

the history of a welfare organization now known as the Children's Service, which began as the Protestant Orphan Asylum in 1865.

The history of Bethlehem Academy of Faribault, which marked its seventy-fifth anniversary on August 4, is the subject of articles in the *Faribault Journal* for July 11 and the *Faribault Daily News* for August 1. The school was founded by sisters of the Dominican order in 1865. The names of the sisters who opened the school in the dining room of a private residence and of the pupils who constituted the first class are listed in the articles. A "Grand Fair" arranged by the sisters in 1876 to raise money for the school's building fund is described in the *News* for July 16.

A "Golden Jubilee Edition" of the *Hills Crescent*, issued on June 20, marks the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Rock County community. A feature of the issue is a detailed history of Hills, in which the beginning of settlement in the area is traced back to 1869. The founding of the town at the intersection of two railroads in 1890, the establishment of business concerns, the building of churches, the arrival of many Norwegian settlers, the incorporation of the village in 1904, and many other subjects are covered. Among special articles in the issue are those dealing with the history of the local creamery; the development of the school system, which had its origin in 1893; the male chorus and the town band, which have long been active in community life; the local baseball and football teams; the fire department; and the newspaper, which was established in 1893 and is now in its forty-seventh year.

The fact that there is very little material in print on the history of Roseau County lends special interest to a sketch of two and a half pages appearing in the *1940 Roseau County Historical Booklet* issued in connection with an old settlers' celebration held at Pelan Battleground Park on September 1 (30 p.). Even in this brief space, attention is given to such subjects as racial groups represented in the county and their cultural interests. Included also are accounts of the settlements of Ross and Pinecreek, of the Greenbush Community Band, and of the park in which the celebration was staged; the text of an operetta, "Wannaska and Waunda," which was the chief feature of the celebration; brief biographical sketches of some Roseau

County pioneers of 1890; and a short description of the museum of the Roseau County Historical Society.

Pioneer reunions held in August in the St. Louis County communities of Brookston and Elmer resulted in the publication of multi-graphed booklets relating to their historical backgrounds (see *ante*, p. 116). That for Brookston includes the text of a pageant, the "Brookston Log," by Marjorie S. Larson, presented on the occasion of the reunion; brief historical sketches of Brookston, Culver, Brevator, Grand Lake, and Stoney Brook; and a list of "Pioneers of the Brookston Region" with the dates of their arrivals. In the Elmer booklet is a "History of Pioneer Days" and a "Roll Call of Pioneers." The information presented in both booklets relates largely to the first decades of the present century.

Under the title "History Lies Buried Here," Jack McBride describes the old cemetery at Fond du Lac in the *Duluth News-Tribune* for September 29. The names on many of the headstones are those of French traders and settlers in the vicinity — reminders, according to Mr. McBride, of the "early civilization at the Head of the Lakes and the various events that eventually assumed historical importance."

The Duluth Public Library, which was founded in 1890, marked its fiftieth anniversary during the week of September 23 with special programs and a daily open house. Among the speakers who participated in the celebration was Dr. Theodore C. Blegen, dean of the graduate school in the University of Minnesota, who told of some of the early private libraries owned in northeastern Minnesota by fur traders and other pioneers, and compared these small though often excellent collections of books with the extensive facilities offered by the modern public library. Articles on the history of the Duluth library appear in the *Duluth Free Press* for September 13 and the *Duluth News-Tribune* for September 29.

From the first minute book of the village council are drawn some items about "Aurora's Early History" that appear in the *Aurora News* for September 12. Included are the results of the first village election, which was held on December 22, 1903.

A parish history of unusual interest and value is the Reverend Hilarion Duerk's booklet dealing with *St. John's Parish of Union*

Hill, Minnesota, issued in June, 1940, as a souvenir of a "diamond jubilee" (111 p.). Father Duerk does much more than trace the story of the four church buildings occupied by this Scott County parish and provide sketches of the Benedictine and Franciscan fathers who have served as its leaders. He reviews the "Historical Background" of the Minnesota Valley and pictures "Pioneer Life" in the region, telling how the early settlers built their houses, what they ate and wore, how they traveled, and the like. The social structure of the pioneer community forms the real background for this story. Descriptions of the construction of the third and fourth churches in 1867 and 1883 are accompanied by figures drawn from manuscript account books showing the expenditures for various types of material and labor. The "financial record" for 1867, for example, includes items of \$18.00 for "Rafters from Shakopee," of \$17.20 for "Boards from Jordan," and of \$40.45 for "Windows and Glazing." Various minute books and a "Parish Chronicle" are among other records used by the author in preparing this parish history.

The history of a Czech community in Steele County is outlined in a booklet issued in June to commemorate the laying of the cornerstone of the Holy Trinity Church at Litomysl in Somerset Township. Included is a list of settlers who came to Minnesota from the town of Litomysl in Bohemia in the 1870's and a brief history of the Catholic church that they established in 1878.

A charming narrative of pioneer life near Wilton in Waseca County is presented by Charles S. Cleland in his account of *The Clelands*, which has been issued as a multigraphed pamphlet (Philadelphia, 1939. 16 p.). In it he tells the story of his parents, who settled on a farm near Wilton in 1864, when the community was a prosperous county seat. The elder Cleland went west from New York state to serve as a missionary among the Scotch Presbyterians of southern Minnesota. Although the author was born after the removal to Minnesota, he includes an account of his family's journey to the West by wagon, railroad, Great Lakes steamer, and ox cart. Mr. Cleland describes in detail the rambling house that was built "around the original log cabin" on his father's farm; he tells of the rural church in which his father preached and of the country school in which he and his brothers and sisters learned the three R's; he includes accounts

of neighbors of many nationalities; he pictures the rural scene with its virgin timber and abundant wild life; and he describes the daily and seasonal routine of life on a frontier farm. For example, he notes that corn was planted about May 15, when "oak leaves were the size of squirrels' ears."

In March, 1879, when the first Waseca County fair was held, its managers collected ten dollars in entry fees from exhibitors, who were charged twenty-five cents a head for horses, ten cents for "horned stock," and five cents for hogs and sheep. This information is included in an account of early fairs appearing in the *Waseca Journal* for July 31. The first fair was arranged by the Waseca Farmers Club and Agricultural Society, which held monthly exhibits until 1882.

A meeting in October, 1840, of the county board of St. Croix County, Wisconsin, in the town of Dakotah near the present site of Stillwater is noted in the *Stillwater Daily Gazette* for September 25, which calls attention to the centennial of the event. Hazen Mooers, Samuel Burkleo, and Joseph R. Brown were the members of the pioneer board. The present Washington County was not organized until Minnesota Territory was established in 1849; nevertheless its archives include some of the records of the earlier county.

A sketch of Alexander McDougal, "king of the St. Croix lumberjacks," appears with his portrait in the *Stillwater Gazette* for September 19. McDougal, who was familiarly known as "Sandy," it is said, "served 60 straight winters in the woods and he came down river on 49 consecutive log drives" before retiring in 1919. This was one of a number of articles published to call attention to the Lumberjack Days celebration which began in Stillwater on September 20.

A brief history of the Rothsay school and a list of teachers who have served there appear in the *Rothsay Enterprise* for July 4. Although a school district was organized in 1880, it was not until two years later that a building was erected. The first teacher, Miss Emma Cooper, was hired in 1883, and a sum of three hundred dollars was set aside to pay her salary for the year. School records were used in the preparation of this account, which carries the story down to the present.



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