

Reviews of Books

The Long Ships Passing: The Story of the Great Lakes. By WALTER HAVIGHURST. (New York, The Macmillan Company, 1942. viii, 291 p. Illustrations. \$3.00.)

The subtitle of Mr. Havighurst's book, *The Story of the Great Lakes*, is somewhat equivocal, since Lake Ontario is almost ignored and the history of Lake Superior is only partly told. The volume focuses on Lakes Michigan and Huron and on the famous locks at the Sault. Through the last the long ships pass, one every twenty minutes throughout the eight-months ice-free season, bearing grain and iron ore down the lakes, coal and manufactured articles on their return. For well over a century vessels have carried the commerce of the lakes, vessels ranging from bateaux and sloops and schooners to the steel-hulled passenger boats and freighters of today. This long period of inland trade has seen many a tragic foundering, many a battle against fires, explosions, ice, and November gales. The men who built the boats, the captains and the crews who navigated them, have a sympathetic chronicler in Mr. Havighurst.

But the story of the Great Lakes is a big story, and the present volume is too short and too impressionistic to tell all of it. The author begins with Jean Nicolet and the French Jesuits, but omits Lahontan, Major Rogers, Jonathan Carver; the story of Perry's victory at Put in Bay is recounted, but there is no mention of Pontiac's savage attack on Detroit; Douglas Houghton's discovery of copper on the Keweenaw Peninsula is given due credit, but the Merritt brothers are overlooked; and there is only one cursory allusion to Grand Portage. The immensely important fur trade on Lake Superior is only hinted at; the North Shore is neglected in order to emphasize the littoral of Lakes Erie and Huron. Thus the major weakness of the book is its lack of adequate historical background.

When it comes to the narratives of the long ships themselves, the author is on surer ground. He has a seaman's knowledge of and interest in the channels, the reefs, the lighthouses, the docks, and ports. With vividness and economy he tells of the building of the Sault canal and the locks. He describes the type and career of a multitude of boats (the index

contains references to 155 different vessels) varying from La Salle's ill-fated "Griffin" to the huge freighters of today, measuring over six hundred feet in length and carrying a cargo in excess of fourteen thousand tons. Individual ships stand out in this saga of the greatest inland waterway in the world. There is the disaster of the "Mataafa," wrecked in Duluth Harbor in 1905 by a violent northeast storm which piled the ship up against the piers of the entrance and froze to death nine crew members in the very sight of the city's helpless populace. There is the "Independence," first steamer on Lake Superior, which was portaged past the rapids of the St. Mary's River and survived seven seasons on the biggest of the lakes; in 1853 the "Independence" left the Sault for Ontonagon, but its boilers exploded and put a swift end to the vessel. There is the exciting race of the belated grain fleet which left Fort William late in November, 1927, and scurried across to the Sault in sub-zero weather only to find the channel frozen solid. Twenty-two steamers, carrying six million bushels of grain, wintered at the Sault that year.

Mr. Havighurst writes with facility and color. Despite needless repetitions (Henry Clay's absurd taunt about the Sault appears three times in the text) and his fondness for certain trite superlatives ("most historic," "finest," "biggest"), he presents the reader with many a freshly-hued scene and terse incident. His depiction of Saginaw, Bay City, Alpena, the lumber towns of Michigan's east shore, is excellent, and no reader will be likely to forget his account of the Menominee fire of 1871. Equally compelling is the tale of the Mormon colony on Beaver Island at the head of Lake Michigan, a colony which once claimed America's only crowned king, James Jesse Strang, but which was obliterated by the exasperated sailors and fishermen of the vicinity. The book gains a rich personal flavor from the introduction of various celebrities of the Northwest: Douglas Houghton, Michigan state geologist and enthusiastic explorer of the shore lines; John Muir, the Scotch naturalist and conservationist who spent his boyhood in Wisconsin; Henry Rowe Schoolcraft, Indian agent and ethnologist; and many an intrepid lake skipper, marine architect, logger, and sailor, and voyager.

The illustrations by John O'Hara Cosgrave II provide a distinctive addition to this vivid and readable volume. The artist's sketches of side-wheelers, schooners, tugs, and ore carriers have unusual deftness and charm.

JOHN T. FLANAGAN

Western Ontario and the American Frontier. By FRED LANDON. (Toronto, The Ryerson Press, 1941. xvi, 305 p. Maps. \$3.50.)

By virtue of its geographic position, the peninsula of western Ontario is very properly a focal point for the study of the interactions of Canadian and American peoples. The story of these contacts, as told by Professor Landon, offers fresh documentation for the view that historically the international boundary has been no barrier to the movement of settlers westward, nor to the spread of cultural influences and institutional patterns.

The author explores this thesis in a series of chapters devoted to American immigration, churches and schools, social and humanitarian influences, political reform, the antislavery movement, farms and farmers, and the labor movement. He points out the contribution of American mechanics and agriculturists to the economic development of the region, describes the activities of American evangelists and educators, and notes the impact of American democracy upon Canadian politics. Through population movements, organizations, and ideas, the pervasive force of things American was felt almost universally.

On the other hand, Mr. Landon makes it plain that the boundary was by no means a purely imaginary line. From his account, it is evident that governing officials in Ontario as well as in England conceived their plans of statecraft in terms of British policies and institutions, and labored to counteract the American penetration. Conservatives used the taint of Americanism to discredit their opponents. Canadian nationalism gained impetus from the Civil War and the threat of American annexation. The author's conclusion is that Ontario history has been marked as much by reaction against American influence as by a positive response to it.

In the opinion of the reviewer the book does not measure up to companion volumes in the series on the *Relations of Canada and the United States*, perhaps because of the limitations of the local approach, and because too many trails have been blazed before. It is, however, well worth reading.

CHARLES M. GATES

Iowa Public Land Disposal. By ROSCOE L. LOKKEN. (Iowa City, The State Historical Society of Iowa, 1942. 318 p. \$3.00.)

Mr. Lokken's volume on federal land operations in the *Iowa Centennial History* series is a valuable addition to the historical literature of a

great Midwestern state. Published under the excellent auspices of the State Historical Society of Iowa, it presents a form and style that will appeal to the general reader. Its deeper significance, however, especially for the student of history, is to be found in the outstanding quality of the author's research and the clarity with which he sets forth the many complicated problems of the public domain. Even a perfunctory examination of the text, maps, and notes will make evident the fact that Mr. Lokken, in his painstaking study of the large mass of private papers, archival documents, and frontier news sheets relating to his subject, has not only unearthed much fresh material, but also has written a work that will serve as a model for investigators in other public land states, in which, generally speaking, similar efforts still are needed.

The author appropriately begins his story with the first land surveys in 1836, and for this purpose he assembles an abundance of information about the activities of individual surveyors. He uses a similar method to follow the steps in the process by which the early land offices were created, as well as to describe the origin and development of the pre-emption policy under which most of the public lands in Iowa passed from federal to local jurisdiction and thereby into the hands of settlers. Adequate attention is given to questions of squatter rights, private and public land sales, land warrants or scrip, various kinds of federal grants to aid education and internal improvements, and the organization and operation of so-called settler or claim associations, the extralegal nature and processes of which cannot be clearly understood without a careful examination of local source materials like those used by the present author. The evidence points unmistakably to the fact that, regardless of Congressional acts and administrative decrees, the men of the soil, informally but effectively organized in claim associations, could and usually did succeed in circumventing national policy, thwarting the best efforts of federal land officials, and securing results more often than not favorable to their interests. The claim association was the most powerful frontier defense against the natural tendency toward a federal dictatorship of public land policy, especially in the period before homestead legislation was passed.

It is worth noting that of the approximately thirty-six million acres of Iowa lands in the hands of the federal government in 1836, only a little over nine hundred thousand acres were disposed of under the terms of the homestead acts. Before 1870, however, all but a million acres had been distributed, mainly by processes of pre-emption and federal grants

to the state and the railroads, and in 1890 a mere five thousand acres remained.

VERNE E. CHATELAIN

A Reference Guide to Iowa History (State Historical Society of Iowa, *Bulletin of Information Series*, no. 17). Compiled by WILLIAM J. PETERSEN. (Iowa City, 1942. 151 p.)

Few organizations devote as much time and energy to making history available to the public as does the State Historical Society of Iowa. The extent of this service over a long period of years may be seen in Dr. Petersen's handy, accurate, and informative reference guide. The *Guide* lists not only the publications of the society, such as the *Iowa Journal of History and Politics*, the popular *Palimpsest*, and the volumes in the several series it sponsors, but also includes references to other publications, such as the *Annals of Iowa*, reports of the federal government, and even significant fiction pertaining to the Hawkeye State. The result is an indispensable handbook for almost anyone who wishes to work in the field of Iowa history or in the broader area of the upper Mississippi Valley.

The compiler arranged the main divisions of the *Guide* in "logical sequence beginning with the natural setting of Iowa history and proceeding through the periods of exploration and settlement to the principal fields of activity and to the people who have made history in this Commonwealth." In addition to the topics dealing with politics, government, land, Indians, travel, and the administration of justice, there are also sections dealing with the colorful life of the people—sections that tell the story of education in early Iowa, that lead the student to the pageant of religious activities, that cite chapter and verse to folklore and odd tales, and that refer to amusements, health, publishing, business, and agriculture. Two sections deal with collections of biographical sketches and with references to prominent Iowans.

The present *Guide* is the result of many years of planning by the Iowa society, which in 1904 conceived the idea when it published a list of twenty-five topics in Iowa history. Three years later the original list was revised. Other enlarged guides were published in 1914 and 1915. In 1932, Dr. Petersen prepared his *Two Hundred Topics in Iowa History*. One has only to compare the 1932 list with the bulletin under review to gain an idea of the immense amount of creditable research in Iowa history accomplished within a decade. If other state historical societies

would prepare similar reference guides, it would be a great boon to research throughout the United States.

PHILIP D. JORDAN

Teaching the Social Studies. By EDGAR BRUCE WESLEY. (Boston, D. C. Heath and Company, second edition, 1942. xviii, 652 p. \$3.00.)

This is a revision of the most extensively used book in print on the teaching of the social studies. No one doubts that in the five years that have passed since the first edition of Dr. Wesley's book appeared the current of world events as well as trends in education have caused a shift of emphasis in the social studies field. The new edition reflects this tendency through the addition of a chapter on "Democratic Teaching and Learning," in which is stressed the teacher's need for understanding democracy in order to teach it. The chapter presents numerous suggestions for "materials, processes, and activities" in the curriculum and in the school organization and administration to further democratic learning. These suggestions are especially stimulating for teachers who would seek to foster one of the main functions of social studies in this period of strain. The chapter is so valuable that it alone is worth the price of the new edition.

The materials in the book have been rearranged, thereby strengthening the text for use in methods courses, and presenting materials in logical sequence for teachers who must adjust to curricular changes and trends. The placing of the historical summary of the social studies in the appendix has made possible a more practical arrangement of material.

The chapter in the new edition on "Teaching Reading and Study Skills" is a splendid aid to the teacher of the social studies who is troubled by the inability of pupils to understand what they read. What Dr. Wesley provides will serve both as a guide to improved work with pupils and as a valuable aid to teachers who may have suffered from lack of specific purposes and techniques in reading and study.

The new edition presents nearly two hundred new references that are of special value to the teacher of social studies techniques. The reviewer can speak with authority of the usefulness of the book even beyond the borders of the United States. It was continuously in demand by teachers of the social studies enrolled in a course that she gave recently in Canada, and it served those who teach in elementary and secondary schools alike.

ELLA A. HAWKINSON

Iron Pioneer: Henry W. Oliver, 1840-1904. By HENRY OLIVER EVANS.
(New York, E. P. Dutton & Co., Inc., 1942. xiii, 370 p. Illustrations. \$3.50.)

Several books have been written about the iron mining resources and industry of northeastern Minnesota. The present volume deals with the life of a man whose name is among the most famous in the history of Minnesota iron ore. Despite his leadership and the fact that the great mining subsidiary of the United States Steel Corporation still bears his name, little is generally known about Henry W. Oliver. The book under review gives some very interesting and important information about this great industrial leader.

Oliver was an Irishman, born in County Tyrone in 1840. His parents went to Pittsburgh two years later. Oliver attended school until he was thirteen, and then worked for the Western Union and for various transportation companies. He was a successful iron and steel manufacturer at twenty-three, became prominent in Pittsburgh civic and political affairs, was a leading advocate of the Republican doctrine of high tariff, and an associate of men of business and political power.

Of special Minnesota interest are sections of Oliver's biography on the Vermilion and Mesabi ranges, including references to the Merritts and many others who left their marks on the mining communities and operations of the state. Oliver's first Mesabi Range lease was on the Mountain Iron mine, the most important discovery of the Merritts. This was located on school property and the fee belonged to the state. The lease expired in 1942, after a half century during which the operations on the mining property paid royalties of approximately a hundred thousand dollars per acre.

There was early skepticism by the iron and steel industry of the value of the Mesabi ores. John D. Rockefeller, who at one time threatened to be as great in iron and steel as he was in oil and who acquired the Merritt interests, was pessimistic. Oliver had a hard time interesting Andrew Carnegie and his associates. Said Carnegie in 1892: "Oliver's ore bargain is just like him—nothing in it. If there is any department of business which offers no inducement, it is ore. It never has been profitable, and the Messaba is not the last great deposit that Lake Superior is to reveal." The old iron master was made to swallow those words within a few years. Although Oliver kept his Mesabi operations going through the

great depression of 1893, he needed money. He gave a half interest in his company to Carnegie in 1894 as a bonus for a loan of five hundred thousand dollars. In 1897 the Carnegie Steel Company bought more of the holdings of the Oliver Mining Company, leaving to Oliver a sixth interest.

With the growth of the iron and steel industries, came a greatly increased demand for iron ore. Oliver's judgment of the value of the Mesabi ores proved to be correct. Ownership of the Minnesota iron ores helped to make the Carnegie Steel Company the leader in the steel industry and the most important factor in the creation of the United States Steel Corporation at the beginning of the century.

Oliver died in 1904. The book portrays him, as he doubtless was, an attractive, interesting, and aggressive personality, a leader in an age of aggressive personalities. Although the volume is well worth reading and owning, it fails to present adequately one of the greatest and most romantic stories of American industry.

L. A. ROSSMAN

This Circle of Earth: The Story of John H. Dietrich. By CARLETON WINSTON. (New York, G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1942. ix, 271 p. \$3.00.)

This is an unconventional and rather unusual biography of a man who is well remembered by Minnesotans, although his voice is no longer heard over the radio and he has discarded overcoat and earmuffs in favor of California, a state from which no Minnesotan is supposed to return. The author, who is Mrs. Dietrich, writes sympathetically and understandingly of her husband; but at several points she is "at wide variance" with his philosophy of life.

Dr. Dietrich's religious pilgrimage began in the orthodox Reformed church and ended in religious humanism. He was a very young man when he "broke through the shell of orthodoxy into the more spacious air of liberal religion." As in the case of many young men of inquiring minds, his experiences with certain misguided exponents of orthodoxy were disillusioning; and he began early to solve his problems as an intellectualist. He led his class in Mercersburg Academy in Pennsylvania and graduated as valedictorian. His predilection for the "social gospel" gave him employment with the *New York Tribune* Fresh Air Fund, a position which made it financially possible to enter Franklin and Marshall

College in 1896. On the campus he measured up to the definition of an "activity boy," even to playing football, but he was no mere seeker after popularity.

After graduation, he tasted the cup of poverty while job hunting and tramping the streets as a book agent, until he found employment as a teacher and later as a private secretary. Before enrolling in the theological seminary of the Reformed church, he had imbibed the freedom of thought of Unitarianism; and a flagrant example of "straddling" by a member of the faculty who lacked the courage of his convictions was disconcerting; but he was ordained and accepted the call to a church in the fashionable east end of Pittsburgh. His defiance of ritual and tradition aroused the indignation of a wealthy "patron" of the church and jeopardized a donation to his Alma Mater. His heresy trial was cut short by a confession of "guilt."

Dietrich's next pastorate was with the First Unitarian Society in Spokane, where his transition from mild theism to rationalism was so rapid that it brought disfavor with clergymen in the city. He devoured the writings of Darwin, Spencer, Huxley, Harnack, and others; and the word "humanism" took on a different connotation. His reputation, however, qualified him for the leadership of the First Unitarian Church of Minneapolis; and he was persuaded to accept the call largely through the efforts of the veteran professor of education in the University of Minnesota, Albert W. Rankin.

Dietrich assumed his duties in Minneapolis in 1916, when the politics of the state was seething with revolt in the form of the Nonpartisan League and the nation stood on the brink of the first World War. He plunged into controversy and threw the weight of his influence against the mounting war sentiment. After the die had been cast, there were whispers and shouts about his alleged pro-Germanism; but he weathered the storm and favored the entrance of the United States into the League of Nations, until at last he became convinced that no good could come of it. His attitude toward disarmament represented perhaps the group of liberals to which he belonged. He was ever the champion of free speech and of the oppressed and the downtrodden; and his sympathy for conscientious objectors during and after the war made him the target of Red baiters. He also entered the lists against the Fundamentalists, who favored a bill in the legislature which would prevent the teaching of the theory of evolution in tax-supported schools.

The concluding chapters of the book set forth the educational activity of the Unitarian Society, which sponsored distinguished lecture courses; Dr. Dietrich's radio broadcasts; the development of his humanist philosophy, and the publication of books and articles; the entrance of death into the family circle; the second marriage; and the close of his preaching career.

If not completely objective, the biography is pleasantly subjective. On the whole, the author writes understandingly, and sometimes even sympathetically, of her husband's adversaries and traducers. Readers who heard Dr. Dietrich's funeral "sermons" will understand the reference to the death of his first wife: "Many months he had lived with the knowledge that his wife must die; and no faith in God sustained him. There was no other world that would know her. . . . His stoicism was magnificent. Yet he knew that his interest in life was gone." These sentences read in connection with Dr. Dietrich's own statement in the years when the shadows were lengthening are significant: "I would still place all emphasis on reason and facts, but the older I grow the more I realize that by this method we lose much of life's radiance. . . . I sometimes wonder if we have not overdone making life reasonable, and serviceable, and seriously effective."

After reading this interesting biography, one cannot seriously question Dr. Dietrich's courage, integrity, and intellectual ability. One may reject humanism and differ with some of his objectives; but the sum total of his usefulness to the community is impressive.

GEORGE M. STEPHENSON

The Mayos: Pioneers in Medicine. By ADOLPH REGLI. (New York, Julian Messner, Inc., 1942. 248 p. Illustrations. \$2.50.)

To those who would learn the main outlines of the lives of the Mayos in a pleasant evening or two, Adolph Regli's biography may be well recommended. The author sticks to the subjects of his biography closely, and includes the barest minimum of medical discussion and terminology, a feature to its advantage for young readers. The book, under two hundred and fifty pages of medium print, is obviously of vastly different character from the eight hundred pages of finer print which compose Miss Clapesattle's *The Doctors Mayo* (see *ante*, 22:404-408). Mr. Regli does succeed in telling a dramatic story with clearness and brevity, and for the most part in a style both colorful and accurate.

Many of the incidents are related in dramatic conversations. The story of the agents and traders' conference with the Sioux in 1862 reads like a novel. Mr. Regli writes that the angry trader snarled, "Let them eat grass," in answer to the agent's plea for credit. Yet this represents a fair picture of the stirring events. The author supplies conversation for all the characters in his book. Those for Dr. W. W. Mayo vary in quality in different situations. Those in his conflict with Cut Nose and in the defense of New Ulm seem plausible and fairly effective, those at the birth of his son overly prophetic, and those in chatting with a neighbor while summarizing his activities for several preceding years too obviously designed for the needs of the narrator. Mrs. Mayo's purporting to say in 1871, "I've been wondering why I never suggested this post-graduate work to you," sounds like a modern writer, not a pioneer housewife. The dramatic picture of Dr. Mayo's search for and recovery of the corpse of Cut Nose after the execution in 1862 is not quite in accordance with other accounts. The general sweep of facts is accurate, however, and the novel-like style is not as pronounced in the story of the sons as in that of the father.

There are no actual photographs, but the interesting drawings used as frontispiece, chapter headings, and end plates add much to the appearance of the book. It might well be added to biographical reading lists for high school students of Minnesota history, and it certainly can be enjoyed as a popular biographical study of Minnesota's famous doctors.

EVADENE BURRIS SWANSON

Minnesota Historical Society Notes

DR. LEWIS BEESON has been named acting superintendent of the society to serve while Dr. Arthur J. Larsen is on leave of absence from his duties as secretary and superintendent. Dr. Larsen left on September 16 to enter the Army Air Force Officers' Training School at Miami, Florida, with the rank of first lieutenant. For more than two years Dr. Beeson has been the society's curator of newspapers, and during the past spring and summer he organized and directed the work of the Minnesota War History Committee (see *ante*, 149-153). Mr. Jacob Hodnefield of St. Paul has been named acting curator of newspapers and supervisor of war history activities.

For the Clarence Walworth Alvord Memorial Commission of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association, the society has published a volume of *Documents Relating to Northwest Missions, 1815-1827* (xix, 469 p.). They have been selected, translated, and provided with an introduction and notes by Dr. Grace Lee Nute, the society's curator of manuscripts. Numerous reports and letters written in French are presented both in the original and in translation. Most of the documents relate to the activities of Catholic missionaries to the Indians of the Red River Valley and the Rainy Lake and Lake Superior districts. The preface was written by Dr. Solon J. Buck, archivist of the United States, who was superintendent of the society from 1914 to 1931; the work of preparing the manuscript for publication, seeing it through the press, and designing the volume was done by Mrs. Mary W. Berthel of the society's editorial staff. In return for its part in issuing the volume, the society is privileged to offer the book to its members at \$2.50, which is half the regular price of \$5.00. The book will be reviewed in the March issue of this magazine. With the publication of this volume, the Mississippi Valley Historical Association inaugurates a series of publications that will serve as a memorial to Professor Alvord, who was one of its founders. This distinguished American historian, who died in 1928, resided in Minnesota for several years while teaching in the University of Minnesota.

The society's reference librarian, Miss Lois Fawcett, was on leave of absence from July 15 to October 15. During that period Mrs. Irene B.

Warming had charge of the activities of the reference department in the library. A leave of absence for the month of September was granted to Mrs. Leone Brower of the catalogue department. Mrs. Florence Trelogan, chief clerk, was given a leave of absence for six months, beginning on September 16. Her work has been taken over by the office stenographer, Mrs. Phyllis Sandstrom. Miss Mary E. Palmes, former chief clerk who resigned on January 1, is temporarily serving as an assistant in the general office.

Wartime conditions have resulted in several permanent resignations and changes in the personnel of the society's staff. Miss June Day, a library assistant, resigned on August 15 to accept a position in a film record library at Wright Field in Dayton, Ohio. Her position was filled by the appointment of Miss Muriel Hoppe. An assistant in the manuscript division, Miss Phyllis Sweeley, resigned in August to accept a position at Hamline University, and Miss Ida Kramer was named to replace her. Another resignation in the manuscript division, effective late in October, was that of Miss Catherine Bauman, the curator's assistant. The museum assistant, Mrs. Henrietta B. Erickson, also has resigned.

To the series of articles on pioneer Minnesota leaders in various fields of activity, which has been appearing in the *Minnesota Journal of Education* since 1936, Mr. Babcock has contributed an account of "Some Minnesota Military Leaders." This appears, with a number of appropriate illustrations from the society's picture collection, in the September issue of the *Journal*.

Under the title "Highway of the Voyageurs," Miss Nute describes a canoe trip in northern Minnesota in the July number of the *Conservation Volunteer*.

Wartime activities have resulted in a greatly increased use of some of the society's collections and facilities. In the manuscript division, for example, more than six thousand readers were served during the first nine months of 1942, more than double the number recorded for the entire year of 1941. A decade earlier, in the early 1930's, from three to five hundred readers used the society's manuscript facilities annually. A large proportion of the recent readers of manuscripts are searching for records of birth or residence in the original schedules of the federal and state census in the society's custody. For similar purposes, large numbers of

people each month are consulting the society's collections of city directories and Minnesota newspapers.

Newspaper readers who wish to use the *Minnesota Pioneer* for the years from 1849 to 1854 are now being referred to the manuscript division, where a microfilm copy of the file for those years is available. By using the copy, the society hopes to save wear and tear on the original file, much of which is unique. Among other newspapers for which the society owns microfilm copies are the *Boston Pilot* for the years from 1854 to 1875, and a number of Winnipeg papers for the period from 1859 to 1875.

Much attention has been given recently to the care and arrangement of archival material in the custody of the society. The records of the surveyor general of logs and lumber, which have been stored in the Historical Building for more than twenty years, were examined by Mr. Eugene Barnes and many of the earlier records, which date back to the 1850's, were arranged. Mr. Barnes also drew up a report on the use of microfilms as an archival aid in other states. The possibility in Minnesota of destroying huge accretions of archival material after they have been copied by the microfilm process is under consideration.

Four annual members joined the society during the quarter ending on September 30: Herbert C. Anderson of Hector, Ralph H. Brown of Minneapolis, Mrs. George G. Cowrie of Minneapolis, and Lieutenant Robert H. Fraser of Las Vegas, New Mexico.

During the third quarter of 1942 the society lost the following active members by death: Mary T. Hale of Minneapolis on July 28, John H. Darling of Duluth on September 12, Judge Royal A. Stone of St. Paul on September 13, George Bell of St. Paul on September 16, and Ross A. Gortner of St. Paul on September 30.

During the summer and early fall, members of the staff continued their speaking activities, though on a somewhat reduced scale. Dr. Larsen spoke on "The Missionary in the Development of Minnesota" at Lac qui Parle State Park on July 12, when the restored mission chapel was dedicated. At the first annual meeting of the Chisago County Historical Society, which was held at Center City on September 22, Dr. Beeson discussed the work of local historical societies. Dr. Nute gave talks and

addresses on "The Voyageur" at Isle Royale on July 9, on "The Webster-Ashburton Treaty and the Voyageur" before the North Shore Historical Assembly meeting at Fort William on August 1, and on "The Farmer and History" before the short course for farm bureau women at the University Farm in St. Paul on September 24.

CONTRIBUTORS

While serving as technical director of the University Theatre and instructor in speech in the University of Minnesota, Dr. Frank M. Whiting became interested in the early history of the drama in Minnesota. His interest led to the preparation of a long and detailed study of the "History of the Theatre in St. Paul, Minnesota, from Its Beginning to 1890," which was submitted in the University of Minnesota as a doctoral dissertation in 1941. His present description of some "Theatrical Personalities of Old St. Paul" in the 1850's is based upon the early chapters of the longer study, which is unpublished.

Dr. Merrill E. Jarchow, the author of the article on "Farm Machinery in Frontier Minnesota" in the present issue, is an instructor in history in the South Dakota State College of Agriculture and Mechanic Arts at Brookings. His article on "Early Minnesota Agricultural Societies and Fairs" appeared in the issue of *Minnesota History* for September, 1941, and he occasionally contributes book reviews to the society's quarterly.

The third and final installment of the journal of Charles C. Trowbridge, who was "With Cass in the Northwest in 1820," appears in the present issue with annotations by Professor Ralph H. Brown of the department of geography in the University of Minnesota. His concern for the historical geography of Minnesota and the Northwest became evident some years ago, when he contributed to this magazine an article entitled "Fact and Fancy in Early Accounts of Minnesota's Climate" (see *ante*, 17:243-261).

The brief article on "A Mississippi Panorama" in the "Notes and Documents" section was prepared for a Pennsylvania periodical by Dr. J. Alden Mason, curator of the American section of the University Museum of the University of Pennsylvania. The fact that this "is purely an anthropological museum, and our possession of the panorama is merely due to the fact that it was part of the archaeological collection of Dr. Dickeson" was explained by Dr. Mason in a letter. The circumstances

under which he wrote the account herewith reprinted are explained by the assistant editor of this magazine in a brief introductory note.

The name of Professor John T. Flanagan of the department of English in the University of Minnesota, which heads the list of reviewers, is familiar to readers of this magazine. His recent article on "The Middle Western Farm Novel" (*ante*, p. 113-125) attracted a wide audience. Dr. Charles M. Gates is a member of the history faculty in the University of Washington at Seattle. Mr. Verne E. Chatelain of Washington, D. C., is a former Minnesotan who made a special study of federal land policies and their operation in Minnesota. He has discussed several phases of the subject in earlier issues of this magazine. Professor Philip D. Jordan is associate professor of history in Miami University at Oxford, Ohio, and the compiler, with Lillian Kessler, of a recent anthology of *Songs of Yesterday* (see *ante*, p. 159). Dr. Ella A. Hawkinson is principal of the College High School and supervisor of history and the social studies in the Moorhead State Teachers College. Mr. L. A. Rossman, publisher of the *Grand Rapids Herald-Review*, is a member of the executive council of the Minnesota Historical Society. Professor George M. Stephenson of the department of history in the University of Minnesota has demonstrated his interest in the religious aspects of Scandinavian-American history by publishing a book and several articles on the subject. Dr. Evadene Burris Swanson of Minneapolis has contributed a number of articles and book reviews to this magazine.

ACCESSIONS

Forty-seven items from the papers of Robert Kennicott, a Chicago naturalist and ornithologist of the last century, have been copied for the society through the courtesy of Mr. Hiram L. Kennicott of Highland Park, Illinois. The papers copied, which relate to the years from 1855 to 1862, include information about visits to Minnesota in 1857 and 1859, with letters from St. Cloud, Pembina, and the Red River settlements. Kennicott, who was associated with the Chicago Academy of Sciences and organized the museum of natural history at Northwestern University, was a son of Dr. John Kennicott, editor of the *Prairie Farmer*.

The certificate of citizenship issued to Knute Nelson in 1866 is included in a mass of papers of the Minnesota Senator, consisting of five boxes and an account book and covering the years from 1861 to 1934,

received from the estate of his daughter, the late Mrs. Ida G. Nelson of Alexandria. Among other personal items in this valuable collection, which adds considerably to the bulk as well as the interest of the Nelson Papers already in the possession of the society (see *ante*, 22:319), is a record of Nelson's service in the Civil War with the Fourth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry. Throughout his life, Nelson corresponded with members of his regiment, and a large number of the resulting letters are among the papers recently presented. Other correspondents represented include President Theodore Roosevelt, William B. Dean of St. Paul, and Charles Whitney, a Minnesota journalist. There are a number of letters from H. E. Paine relating to the constitutional basis for state-owned elevators. Newspaper clippings reporting events in Nelson's career from 1886 to 1920 are included. The Senator's activities as a railroad lawyer, an estate administrator, and a land speculator are reflected in the records of twelve legal cases dating from 1868 to 1915. Of special interest are the records of a suit arising out of an attempt to remove the county seat of Grant County from Elbow Lake to Herman in the early 1880's.

The original minutes of the Furness colony, which was organized in the Furness district of northern England in 1872, and sent its members to settle on Northern Pacific Railroad lands near Wadena in 1873 and 1874, have been presented by Mr. George Masters of Brookings, South Dakota. The records were kept by the colony's secretary, Richard Bailey, whose son, Mr. T. J. Bailey of Sacriston, Durham, England, recently sent them to Mr. Masters. Seventeen pages of minutes open with a record of the organization meeting of the Furness colony on October 22, 1872. This is followed by the rules of the emigration group, notices of meetings and addresses, accounts of visits of inspection to Minnesota lands by representatives of the colony, and reports of negotiations with the railroad company.

The Trinity Lutheran Church of St. Paul has added to its records already in the possession of the society (see *ante*, 20:193) three volumes containing baptismal, marriage, and death records for the years from 1870 to 1923.

Clippings about the activities of Frank B. Kellogg, jurist, statesman, and diplomat, in 1907 and from 1924 to 1929, are contained in twenty scrapbooks presented by Mr. George Morgan of St. Paul. The earlier books relate to Kellogg's services as a United States attorney in the In-

terstate Commerce Commission's investigation of the Union Pacific trusts. The period when Kellogg was ambassador to England and secretary of state is covered in the later volumes, which contain material on the Kellogg-Briand treaty, the World Court, the League of Nations, and relations with Mexico and Nicaragua.

A mass of political information assembled by Lynn Haines and filling eight filing boxes has been added to his papers by his widow, Mrs. Dora B. Haines of Washington (see *ante*, 22:423). The newly acquired material includes the voting records of many Congressmen and relates to such subjects as the presidential campaign of 1928.

A German edition of Father Hennepin's *New Discovery of a Vast Country in America*, published at Bremen in 1698, has been added to the society's substantial collection of Hennepin items. This was Hennepin's second book about the journey to the upper Mississippi that resulted in the discovery of the Falls of St. Anthony. The society has several other editions of this work published in 1698, 1699, and 1704. The German version is entitled *Neue Reise-Beschreibung durch viele Länder weit grösser als ganz Europa*.

Two issues of a hitherto unknown St. Paul newspaper are included in a gift of Minnesota and Eastern newspapers recently received from Mrs. Levi M. Hall of Minneapolis. The paper, which is entitled the *North Star*, was a daily published in St. Paul to give support to John C. Breckinridge of Kentucky in the presidential campaign of 1860. The issues received by the society are numbers 45 and 47 of volume 1, and they are dated September 18 and 20, 1860. The editor was Harry H. Young, a journalist who came to Minnesota in 1859 and settled first at Henderson. After the Civil War he was employed on papers at Red Wing and Rochester, and he later served as secretary of the state board of immigration. Among other Minnesota newspapers in Mrs. Hall's gift that were not to be found earlier in the society's collection are the *Anoka Union* for November 16, 1865, the *La Crescent Plaindealer* for November 26, 1860, the *Minnesota Union* of St. Cloud for April 11 and November 28, 1862, and thirty-four issues of the *Minnesota Statesman* of St. Peter for 1860 and 1861. Represented also by issues for the 1850's and 1860's are three St. Paul papers, the *Pioneer*, the *Pioneer and Democrat*, and the *Press*, and newspapers published in Washington, Baltimore, Boston, and several places in Vermont.

Mr. Albert Steinhäuser of New Ulm has presented substantial files of two German-language newspapers published in South Dakota from 1883 to 1915. A file of the *Dakota freie Presse* of Yankton covers the period from 1883 to 1900. The *Süd Dakota Nachrichten*, which was published at Mitchell until 1896 and later appeared at Sioux Falls under four different titles, is represented by a file for the years from 1891 to 1915. A single issue of the *Dakota Post*, published at Mitchell on May 14, 1896, is included in the gift. So far as has been determined, no other depository owns files of these newspapers.

Recent additions to the military collection include a Remington rifle that was used in the Revolutionary War, from Mr. W. E. Hickel of Birmingham, Alabama; a revolver patented by Otis E. Smith in 1873, from Mrs. G. P. Tuthill of St. Paul; and an American army bayonet of the 1880's, from the Goodwill Industries of St. Paul. The latter organization also has presented a number of tools, including an iron hames and a brace.

Miss Pauline Wold of Santa Barbara, California, has presented a beautiful lace handkerchief that was made by a Chippewa girl on the Leech Lake reservation in 1898. The handkerchief was a gift to Miss Wold from Miss Pauline Colby, who taught lacemaking on the reservation from 1892 to 1922. Among numerous items presented by Miss Edith Brill of St. Paul are two beaded bags made by Indians on the same reservation, a toy bank made in the form of a miniature iron safe, and an electric toaster of an early type.

A portable writing desk of mahogany with brass trimmings and a secret drawer, which is said to date from the period of the American Revolution, is the gift of Mrs. Annie Giblette of Mora. Miss Mary H. Folwell of Minneapolis has presented a pair of silver candlesticks, some rugs, and several pieces of furniture. Other items of household equipment recently received include a blue and white cotton quilt made in 1842, from Mrs. Raymond A. Jackson of Minneapolis; a number of iron trivets, wooden salad serving sets, a copper strainer, and a copper mug, from Mrs. C. C. Bovey of Minneapolis; a chopping knife with double blades, from Dr. J. C. Ferguson of St. Paul; and a coffee grinder, from Mrs. A. E. Ingberg of Sunrise.

A doll's rocking chair upholstered in horsehair, dating from about 1860, is one of the many interesting additions to the museum collection

recently presented by Miss Georjeannie Hamilton of Minneapolis. Her gift includes samples of ribbons, trimmings, and materials used by her mother while conducting a millinery shop in Minneapolis in the 1870's and 1880's. Miss Hamilton also has presented numerous items of men's and women's clothing, accessories, jewelry, and lace; several patchwork quilts; and china, glassware, and other table appointments.

A bugle used in the Civil War by Albert Trost is the gift of his daughter and son-in-law, Mr. and Mrs. William A. McCreight of St. Paul. A guitar made in Germany in 1834 has been presented by Mrs. Charlotte Merrill of St. Paul.

Ninety tools used by John S. Ekman, a St. Paul cabinet maker, have been presented by his son, Mr. Lawrence E. Ekman of Rochester. Mrs. M. T. McEllistrem of St. Paul has presented some pieces of blacksmith's equipment used by her father, Dunoid Simard.

An interesting addition to the toy collection is a miniature model of a locomotive made in 1888 by Mr. H. T. Johnson of South St. Paul, who presented it. Originally, it was operated by steam, and later compressed air was used. A small doll with china head, hands, and feet, dating from about 1860, is the gift of Mrs. Julia Hintz of St. Paul.

An elaborately embroidered Swedish peasant costume consisting of a blouse, skirt, apron, jerkin, hood, and stockings has been presented by Mrs. Maria I. Wineberg of Akron, Ohio.

A brass medal issued for French orphans of the first World War has been added to the numismatic collection by Miss Marjorie Knowles of St. Paul.

Among the genealogies received in the third quarter of 1942 are several that contain up-to-date information about Minnesotans and their families. In one, *The Wells Family* by D. W. Norris and H. A. Feldmann (Milwaukee, 1942. 437 p.), there is an account of Captain Franklin Van Valkenburgh, a native of Minneapolis who met his death at Pearl Harbor on December 7, 1941. In another, volume 2 of *Our Pioneers Ancestors* by Henry E. Riggs (Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1942. 230 p.), a chart showing the descendants, as of January 1, 1942, of the Reverend Stephen R. Riggs, a prominent Minnesota missionary, is presented, and his work and that of his sons among the Sioux of Minnesota, South Dakota, and Nebraska is briefly sketched.

Information about the families of Harrison B. and Chauncey N. Waterman, based upon the Winona County federal census schedules for 1860 and 1870, appears in volume 2 of *The Waterman Family*, compiled by Donald L. Jacobus (New Haven, 1942. 784 p.). Another member of the same family who went to Minnesota, the Reverend Thomas T. Waterman, served as pastor of a Congregational church at Winona in 1856 and 1857 and helped to erect there a church building with a steeple and a bell, which is said to have been the first of its kind on the west bank of the Mississippi north of Dubuque.

Other genealogies received recently include: U. S. G. Bowersox, *Bauersachs Family History* (Longmont, Colorado, 1941. 168 p.); Winfield S. H. Engle, *The Melchor Engle Family* (Lima, Ohio, 1940. 243 p.); Harry F. Roush, *Family History of the Fenders and the Lances* (Lima, Ohio, 1942. 34 p.); David Graessle, *History of the Graessle-Gracely Family* (Lima, Ohio, 1941. 42 p.); Hugh C. Haynsworth, *Haynsworth-Furman and Allied Families* (Sumter, South Carolina, 1942. 333 p.); William O. Francis, *A History of the Holmes Family* (Chillicothe, Ohio, 1942. 11 p.); Loea P. Howard, *Ancestors of Joel and Maria Parker Howard of Reading, Massachusetts* (Boston, 1942. 62 p.); Alexander E. Hoyle, *The Story of William Hoyle and His Family, Told in Their Own Diaries and Letters* (Boston, 1942. 565 p.); George F. Ivey, *The Ivey Family in the United States* (Hickory, North Carolina, 1941. 113 p.); Edward S. Knapp, *We Knapps Thought It Was Nice* (New York, 1940. 211 p.); William J. Lodge, *A Record of the Descendants of Robert and Elizabeth Lodge* (Geneva, 1942. 150 p.); Ellsworth D. McEathron, *McEathron (McEachron, McEachran, McEachern) Family* (San Pedro, California, 1941. 8 p.); Harrison M. Sayre, *Descendants of Deacon Ephraim Sayre* (Columbus, Ohio, 1942. 75 p.); Edith A. Rudder, *My Mother's Family, Shannon-Sill, Pennsylvania and Ohio, Hamilton-Robinson, Virginia and Indiana* (Salem, Indiana, 1942. 38 p.); Mary L. Graff, *Early History of Truby-Graff and Affiliated Families* (Kittanning, Pennsylvania, 1941. 367 p.); and Lewis C. Weldin, *History and Genealogy of the Weldin Family* (Pittsburgh, 1939. 163 p.).
L.M.F.

News and Comment

THAT "the publication of a series of bulletins, covering different phases of local historical work," is one of the most significant phases of the work of the American Association for State and Local History is the belief expressed by C. C. Crittenden in a general introduction to its *Bulletins*. Since three numbers have now been issued by the association, it is possible to gain some idea of the value of these publications to local historians. In the first, published in October, 1941, Edward P. Alexander of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin deals with the question "What Should Our Historical Society Do?" His discussion "is intended to give a general résumé of possible activities for a local historical group." He divides his subject under four conventional headings — meeting, publication, library, and museum activities. Some of the activities included under these headings, however, are far from conventional. Under publications, for example, he discusses speeches, radio talks, and markers. Dr. Alexander's most useful suggestions probably are those relating to museums. Included is a definition of "principles of relevancy of material and changing display" that many a museum, large and small, might apply with profit. The Minnesota Historical Society should be flattered by the fact that several of Dr. Alexander's examples are drawn from its activities. For instance, after enumerating various types of meetings that historical societies might arrange, he suggests that the reader "examine the back numbers of *Minnesota History* or *New York History* . . . to see how these various suggestions are carried out." The local historical worker will do well to have a copy of this booklet at hand. Specific phases of the local history program are discussed in two *Bulletins* issued in 1942. In number 2 of the series, Sylvester K. Stevens deals with a timely subject, "Local History and Winning the War," giving emphasis to the "theory of local history as a morale resource." The experience of one local leader, Loring McMillen of the Staten Island Historical Society, in "Using Volunteers in the Local Historical Society's Program" is described in number 3 of the *Bulletins*. Other booklets planned for this series will deal with such topics as "the conduct of historical tours, planning and producing historical radio broadcasts, publicity programs for the historical society, the conduct of local historical forums, the writing of local

history, the preservation and care of manuscripts by small libraries and historical societies, the restoration and care of historic buildings and sites, the marking of historic spots, the production of local historical plays and pageants, and the planning of suitable publication programs."

"No nation can be patriotic in the best sense, so people can feel a proud comradeship, without a knowledge of the past," writes Allan Nevins in the *New York Times Magazine* for May 3. He notes that "The Army camps are hastily organizing classes in historical instruction," and that "Our press is full of references to the devotion and heroism shown in former crises." This causes Professor Nevins to raise the question, "Have we done enough to teach American history in the lower schools, the high schools and the colleges, and has it been taught aright?"

A statistical study, by Professors William B. Hesseltine and Louis Kaplan of the University of Wisconsin, of "Doctors of Philosophy in History" who received degrees from forty-six American universities from 1873 to 1935 appears in the July number of the *American Historical Review*. Tables are presented to show the number of doctoral degrees in history granted by each university, the occupations of those holding such degrees, their distribution, and the number of books and articles they have published.

Four papers presented in a symposium on the question "Have the Americas a Common History?" at the annual meeting of the American Historical Association in Chicago on December 29, 1941, have been published in the June number of the *Canadian Historical Review*. Contributing to the discussion of this interesting question are William C. Binkley for the United States, George W. Brown for Canada, Edmundo O'Gorman for Mexico, and German Arciniegas for South America.

In an essay on "Frederick Jackson Turner, Historian," published in the *Wisconsin Magazine of History* for June, Avery Craven writes: "To reduce this first frontier essay to a hidebound thesis separate from the rest of Turner's work; to denounce it for its lack of exactness and its tendency to generalize; to criticize it because it does not contain everything which might conceivably be included in a complete formula for the writing of American history is to miss its whole purpose and value." Professor Craven defends Turner's theory by saying that it "was but a

starting point, an approach. The end sought was research, not dictation."

"Those who have worked on the more comprehensive phases of agricultural history have long since realized that good agricultural history is unobtainable without good local history," writes Everett E. Edwards in an article on "Agricultural History and the Department of Agriculture," appearing in *Agricultural History* for July. Mr. Edwards contends that "it is a valuable and useful experience to write individually or collectively the history of one's own community. Good local histories can be prepared by school children," he continues, "and the Department may well assist in a 'write your own history' movement." The fact that the department has an opportunity to co-operate with 4-H Clubs and extension workers is stressed.

Viking tales containing references to America have been charmingly translated by Einar Haugen and published in a handsome volume that bears the title, *Voyages to Vinland: The First American Saga* (Chicago, 1941. 127 p.). Mr. Haugen is responsible not only for this new translation, "made directly from the original manuscripts of the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries," but for the annotations, comments on historical evidence, notes, and interpretations that accompany the narrative proper. In one section he presents the evidence discovered by archaeologists and others "In Search of Relics," and there he comments on what he describes as the "most ambitious runic stone in all America"—the Kensington rune stone. "Whether one regards it as spurious or genuine," writes Mr. Haugen of the Minnesota stone, "its undeniable presence in Alexandria, Minnesota, is very hard to explain. If it is a hoax, it has not yet been unmasked," he continues; "if it is a voice from the past, its title to speak is still in doubt."

The literature that has arisen out of the Paul Bunyan tales is the subject of a revealing analysis by Gladys J. Haney appearing under the title "Paul Bunyan Twenty-five Years After" in the *Journal of American Folklore* for July-September. The author finds it "odd that such a short time as a quarter of a century ago, Paul was known almost entirely through oral tales, and to a comparatively small number of people." In the intervening years, Miss Haney discloses, "there have been at least 17 full-length books, five of them in poetry, published about Paul," and

plays, "music, ballets, murals, wood-cuts, paintings, and statues have portrayed him." How recently the lumberjack hero has become generally known is illustrated by Miss Haney's list of "firsts," which includes "first written record, in 1914, by W. B. Laughead; first research recorded, in 1916, by Stewart and Watt; first continuous narrative, in 1919, by Ida Virginia Turney; and first book written especially for children, in 1927, by James Cloyd Bowman." And readers are informed that the "first encyclopedia to include Paul Bunyan was Britannica, in 1929." Minnesotans will recall that Mr. Laughead recorded his tales in an advertising booklet issued by the Red River Lumber Company (see *ante*, 21: 177). Miss Haney's brief sketch is followed by a bibliography of eleven pages, which includes sections on music and art.

A contribution to the folklore of Lake Superior, in this case originating with the voyageurs rather than with the Indians, appears in the *Beaver* for September under the title "A Merman in Lake Superior." The narrative, which is reprinted from the *Canadian Magazine and Literary Repository* for May, 1824, describes a curious creature that a voyageur named Venant St. Germain is said to have seen "rising from the waters of Lake Superior." His account of the apparition is in the "form of a deposition before two of the judges of the Court of King's Bench." The experience that St. Germain reports occurred in 1782 while he was on a trip from Grand Portage to Mackinac.

The origin and significance of about three hundred *American Mottoes and Slogans* and their historical associations are explained by George E. Shankle in a recently published volume (New York, 1941. 183 p.). Included are "political campaign slogans, governmental slogans, colonial and revolutionary patriotic slogans, war slogans, personal slogans, religious slogans, the mottoes and slogans of patriotic organizations, and the state mottoes." The arrangement is alphabetical, with a profuse use of cross referencing.

The announcement that the State Historical Society of Missouri has acquired the library of "almost 3000 select items in the history and literature of the 'Middle Border,'" assembled over a period of more than forty years by J. Christian Bay of Chicago, accompanies Mr. Bay's address on "Western Life and Western Books" in the July issue of the *Missouri Historical Review*. Mr. Bay defines some of the principles that guided

his collecting activities, relating that his library "was formed around the idea that our pioneer spirit, our western life, is worth preserving in record and by way of emulation." The pioneer spirit he asserts, "still unites us," and it still is true that "the Middle Border is our country's heart, and that heart remains sound, whatever comes, whatever passes." Incidentally, Mr. Bay pays a tribute to the American historical societies, which, he says, "prove that our best traditions are studied, made known, perpetuated. If history means anything to us," he continues, "we shall observe and obey the lessons of the past. I think we do this."

A "Conference on the Northern Plains" was held at Lincoln, Nebraska, on June 25, 26, and 27, with a number of historians and others from the Northwest participating. Minnesota was represented by Dean Theodore C. Blegen of the University of Minnesota; among those from neighboring states and provinces were Professor John D. Hicks of the University of Wisconsin, Professor Louis Pelzer of the University of Iowa, Mr. Richard C. Overton of Chicago, and Mr. George Ferguson of the *Winnipeg Free Press*. Dean Blegen contributed to the discussion many remarks based upon his long experience as superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society and editor of its publications. At the final session he outlined a program consisting of ten points for the study of the Plains area, particularly its northern section.

In the *Bulletin* of the American Institute of Swedish Arts, Literature, and Science for September, Albin Widen makes the suggestion that a conference for the discussion of "Swedish immigration, local history, and history of denominations and organizations, personal and family history" should be held in the near future at the institute, which is located in Minneapolis. Mr. Widen stresses the importance of collecting and preserving material relating to the history of the Swedes in America, and he contends that "for that purpose, historical societies should be founded in all Swedish localities." One project suggested for workers in the field of Swedish-American history is the making of a "systematic inventory of Swedish settlements in Minnesota." The need for special Swedish-American archives also is noted. Mr. Widen fails to mention the vast collection of materials relating to the Swedes in America preserved by the Minnesota Historical Society, though a note elsewhere in the *Bulletin* calls attention to the society's resources in that field.

One of O. E. Rølvaag's boyhood friends in Norway, Mr. John Heitmann of Duluth, is the author of a charming sketch of the eminent Minnesota author appearing in volume 12 of the *Norwegian-American Studies and Records* (Northfield, 1941). Much of the article deals with Rølvaag's Norwegian background and his family, though a few Minnesota incidents are included. Among other interesting and informing articles in the same volume are Kenneth Bjørk's account of "Ole Evinrude and the Outboard Motor," Birger Osland's recollections of early "Norwegian Clubs in Chicago," and Marjorie M. Kimmerle's study of "Norwegian-American Surnames."

One chapter of the Reverend Vaclav Vojta's volume on *Czechoslovak Baptists and their churches* is devoted to religious organizations in Minnesota and Wisconsin (Minneapolis, 1941. 276 p.). Minnesota churches and church leaders in New Prague, Minneapolis, and St. Paul are considered. New Prague is described as a "typical Czechoslovak colony," where the "people speak the Czech language on the streets, in stores, in civic offices, and elsewhere."

The First Fifty Years of a midwestern institution of higher learning, the University of Chicago, are outlined in streamlined fashion in a pamphlet issued to commemorate its fiftieth anniversary (1941. 48 p.). In word and picture a record is presented of the founding, as the result of the gift of John D. Rockefeller, of an institution that was planned for concentration upon investigation and inquiry.

Some reverberations of the Northfield bank robbery of 1876 are to be found in an article on "The James Boys and Missouri Politics" by William A. Settle, Jr., appearing in the *Missouri Historical Review* for July. In 1880, four years after Frank and Jesse James escaped from Minnesota, the Missouri "Republican State platform contained two statements which were intended as reflections upon the Democratic administration for failure to capture the James band," writes Mr. Settle. One statement accused the Democrats of failure to "prosecute notorious criminals," and of "permitting a Republican state [*Minnesota*] to perform that duty." As late as 1885, "at the time of the dismissal of the last Missouri charge against Frank James . . . it was rumored that requisition for him would soon be made by Minnesota authorities"; and Republican papers printed "attacks upon the element of the Democratic party which wanted to

prevent Frank James' trial in Minnesota and charged that political influence had been used to keep him from being punished." In the same issue of the *Review*, under the title "Lost Channels," Sue Hetherington writes of the old Mississippi River songs, most of which are now "forgotten because nobody thought to write them down." Among the types of songs mentioned are those to which "Norse lumberjacks set their dialect" while they "made large rafts of the logs up at Stillwater, Minnesota, then guided them down the river to St. Louis." The author notes that a song popular with raft pilots was "'The *Fred Weyerhaeuser* and the *Frontenac*,' a ballad made entirely of the names of towboats." Miss Hetherington adds to her article an "index of first lines of such scraps of songs as were available to the compiler."

"David Dale Owen and the First Geological Survey," which began in Iowa in 1839, are discussed by Walter B. Hendrickson in the *Annals of Iowa* for July. It will be recalled that nearly a decade after he began work in Iowa, Owen extended his survey into the Minnesota country. His work there doubtless will be described in Professor Hendrickson's biography of Owen, which, according to an announcement that accompanies the present article, is soon to be published by the Indiana Historical Commission.

Conrad W. Leifur is the author of a newly published textbook on *Our State North Dakota* (New York, 1942. 621 p.), about half of which is devoted to geography and history. The volume meets the requirements and follows an outline provided by the state department of public instruction. Connections between the history of Minnesota and that of its neighbor to the west are brought out in many sections of the book, notably those dealing with the Indians, exploration, the fur trade, Indian wars, and transportation.

Nearly three hundred pages of volume 20 of the *South Dakota Historical Collections* are devoted to a detailed study by Charles Lowell Green of "The Administration of the Public Domain in South Dakota." The author, who is a member of the history faculty in the Moorhead State Teachers College, prepared this study as his doctoral dissertation in the University of Iowa. There are chapters dealing with Indian land cessions, surveys, and pre-emption, as well as with settlement, colonization, speculation, and railroad lands. Minnesota places and Minnesota

residents frequently are mentioned in this narrative. Of Minnesota interest also is a sketch in the same volume of "Bishop Marty and His Sioux Missions," by Sister Mary Clement Fitzgerald. A brief statement about Father Martin Marty's service as bishop of St. Cloud in the 1890's is included.

Minnesota is well represented in a historical edition of a South Dakota newspaper, the *Sisseton Courier*, issued on July 2 to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of three local events—the opening to settlement of the Sisseton and Wahpeton Indian Reservation, the founding of the city of Sisseton, and the establishment of its first newspaper. Browns Valley, across the border in Minnesota, was the gateway to the reservation, and it was there in April, 1892, that "hordes of eager home seekers, some on foot, some [on] horseback and others with every form of conveyance were packed . . . awaiting the discharge of guns of the soldiers, which were to signal the zero hour for the rush" for claims on the reservation. A sketch of the founding and early history of Browns Valley is included in the issue. There also are to be found accounts of Presbyterian and Catholic missions established by men who had been active earlier in the Minnesota mission field, and a biographical sketch of Hazen Mooers, a fur trader who was prominent both east and west of Lake Traverse.

The role played by N. P. Langford, who was known both in Minnesota and Montana, in bringing about "The Creation of Yellowstone National Park," is described by N. Turrentine Jackson in the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review* for September. That the first suggestion for the preservation of the wonders of the Yellowstone basin in a national park came from Cornelius Hedges, a member of the exploring expedition of 1870, is recorded in Langford's writings. Langford's own lectures on behalf of the park project and his untiring efforts to push a bill through Congress to provide for the park are described by the author in some detail.

One the most useful volumes issued by the Wisconsin Historical Records Survey deals with the *Origin and Legislative History of County Boundaries in Wisconsin* (Madison, 1942. 229 p.). Changes in boundaries are not only described in detail for each county in the state, with references to legislative enactments, but they are graphically illustrated on maps. Of special Minnesota interest are the sections relating to the border

counties of Crawford, Pierce, Polk, and St. Croix. The volume is a reminder of the need for a similar study of county boundaries in Minnesota.

To "meet the needs of teachers, students, and study clubs interested in the history of La Crosse," Miss H. Margaret Josten, chairman of the department of social studies in a local high school, has prepared a useful study guide entitled *La Crosse: A Century of Growth 1842-1942* (1942. 53 p.). After disposing of the founding of the city and the establishment of its lumbering interests, Miss Josten outlines the growth of the city, dividing her subject into fourteen sections. Among the topics suggested for investigation are racial groups, local government, education, churches, cultural activities, recreation, social activities, and many phases of business and professional history. For each topic the author provides an outline, a list of references, and a number of suggested activities for students. When studying racial groups, for example, the author suggests that one student should "make a survey to learn what students had ancestors who were early settlers in La Crosse," and that another might "make a collection of songs, of recipes, of sayings, of holiday or other customs which one family or one racial group brought with it." Of timely significance is a section on "War and Defense," with divisions on La Crosse in wars of the past, on patriotic societies, and on "defense preparation 1941-1942," including local industries in the defense program and civilian activities.

An appeal to "Salvage Canada's Past," along with rubber, scrap iron, and paper, is made by Elsie McLeod Murray in the *Ontario Library Review* for August. "In the attics and cellars of our homes, in church vestries, in warehouses and stores, in municipal offices, and often even in our libraries," she writes, "lies unrecognized and completely abandoned the very stuff and substance of the past — original documentary accounts of the social life, business activities, cultural pursuits and political thought of earlier generations." The author is concerned chiefly with what she describes as the "new and sometimes baffling problems" that arise in making available to historians, genealogists, novelists, lawyers, and others who use libraries the manuscript materials relating to Canada's past.

Readers of Mr. Lawrence J. Burpee's article on "A Hundred Years of North America" in the September issue of this magazine will be interested in the same author's concise account of the founding, history,

and accomplishments of the International Joint Commission, published by the Ryerson Press of Toronto under the title *Good Neighbours* (1940. 30 p.). He traces from sea to sea the international boundary over which the commission exercises jurisdiction, giving a detailed description of Minnesota's northern boundary.

The Canadian international boundary area that adjoins Minnesota to the north is given some consideration in an article on "The History and Status of Forestry in Ontario" by N. O. Hipel, appearing in the *Canadian Geographical Journal* for September. The forests of the Quetico region and the Rainy River country receive frequent mention. The many excellent pictures of lumber camps and logging activities that illustrate the article are as typical of northern Minnesota as of Ontario.

In an attractive volume entitled *Tadoussac Then and Now: A History and Narrative of the Kingdom of Saguenay* (1942. 23 p.), William Hugh Coverdale outlines the history of the ancient French settlement at the junction of the Saguenay and St. Lawrence rivers. He pictures Tadoussac as the center of a fabulous land where the French dreamed of finding unmeasured riches in the sixteenth century; as a "much-used base, where the fur-trade developed from being a side-line to the fisheries"; as a mission station; and, finally, as a summer resort. Among the many interesting illustrations is a picture of the chapel, still standing, which was erected in 1747.

A documentary film depicting the making of the birchbark canoe, produced under the direction of Mr. and Mrs. F. Radford Crawley, was given its first showing at the annual meeting of the Canadian Historical Society at Ottawa on February 25, 1942. The film inaugurates a series designed by the Canadian Historical Society to tell the story of transportation in Canada. Others dealing with various types of transportation, from the dogsled to the airplane, are planned for future production.

Dr. Grace Lee Nute, curator of manuscripts for the Minnesota Historical Society, was the speaker at a meeting of the Thunder Bay Historical Society at Fort William on June 29. She took as her subject the adventures of Radisson and Groseilliers in the Northwest, describing also some of the obscure sources of information on their careers that she had discovered in France and in Canada.

GENERAL MINNESOTA ITEMS

The fiftieth anniversary of the Minnesota Library Association is fittingly commemorated in the September issue of *Minnesota Libraries*, which presents two articles on the history of the organization. The first, by Gratia A. Countryman, one of its charter members and founders, reviews the "Early History of the Minnesota Library Association, 1891-1900." She brings out the fact that the first suggestion for a state organization of librarians came from Dr. William W. Folwell in a letter of December 23, 1891, to J. Fletcher Williams, secretary and librarian of the Minnesota Historical Society. The role of these men in making the association a reality is described. It may be noted in passing that the "organization meeting was held in the directors' room of the Minnesota Historical Society on December 29, 1891." Miss Countryman describes the association's annual meetings in its first decade of existence, and she tells of some important cultural developments for which it was responsible. At its fourth annual meeting Dr. Folwell recommended that the university open a department of library science, at a time when there were only four library schools in the country. In 1899, as the result of constant agitation by the association in favor of traveling libraries, the legislature passed an act establishing a state library commission. Miss Clara Baldwin, who was named librarian of the commission, is the author of the second article about the history of the Minnesota Library Association, outlining the story of its accomplishments from 1900 to 1942.

The "Preservation of Local History" was the topic of a panel discussion held in connection with a short course for farm bureau women at the University Farm in St. Paul on September 24. The discussion followed an address on "The Farmer and History," presented by Dr. Grace Lee Nute, curator of manuscripts on the staff of the Minnesota Historical Society. Participating in the panel, which was led by Mr. Paul Johnson of the University Farm, were Dr. Nute, Dr. Ray Le May of the Winona County Historical Society, Mrs. Bunn T. Willson of the Olmsted County society, Mrs. O. M. Bollum of Goodhue County, and Dr. Lewis Beeson, acting superintendent of the state historical society.

Racial groups in Minnesota and the activities of certain industrial groups in the state are providing the subject matter for a series of articles by George L. Peterson on "Life in Minnesota," appearing from time to

time in the *Minneapolis Morning Tribune*. The opening article, published on September 18, deals with "Askov's Danish Farmers" and their contribution to the war effort. The author gives an engaging picture of the orderly and comfortable community that developed after "the Danish People's Society took over the pioneer settlement of Partridge and all the country round in 1906, renaming the place for the town in Denmark where the first folk high school was established." The iron range country, with its Finns, Serbs, Slovenes, Croats, Lithuanians, Italians, and other "national groups that hurried from Europe a generation and more ago" is described in the article published on September 22; and life in the lumber camps of northern Minnesota, where an acute labor shortage exists, is the subject of the article for September 29.

Under the title "Range Court History Outlined," Judge Edward Freeman of Virginia reviews the story of the local judiciary in the *Hibbing Daily Tribune* for September 26. The account deals largely with the history of the Eleventh Judicial District, which has embraced St. Louis County since 1874, and which has held regular terms at Duluth, Virginia, Hibbing, and Ely since 1911.

"A Psychiatric Bulletin in Minnesota of Half a Century Ago" is the subject of a recent chapter, by Dr. M. K. Amdur of Cincinnati, in the "History of Medicine in Minnesota" that has been appearing for some years in *Minnesota Medicine*. Dr. Amdur, whose article appears in the September issue, calls attention to the fiftieth anniversary of a quarterly *Hospital Bulletin*, published from 1891 to 1893 by the medical staff of the Rochester State Hospital. Some interesting information about the early history of the hospital is included in this article. In the July and August issues of *Minnesota Medicine*, Dr. Arthur S. Hamilton completes his "History of the Minnesota State Medical Society." The final installment carries the story of the society's annual meetings to the turn of the century.

The Minnesota conference of the Evangelical church has set aside the year 1942-43 as a seventy-fifth anniversary year, since the conference was organized in April, 1868. To mark the occasion an illustrated pamphlet reflecting the history of the conference has been issued. In it are presented a brief account of the first conference, sketches of "pioneer personalities," a chronology giving the "high-lights" in the history of the conference, a

list of "anniversary observances," and a sketch of the Lake Koronis Assembly Grounds, established by the church in 1922.

Students of history, sociology, and economics who attempt to interpret the 1930's will find much of interest and value in a booklet recently issued by the University of Minnesota Press under the title, *Economic Effects of Steady Employment and Earnings: A Case Study of the Annual Wage System of George A. Hormel & Co.* (Minneapolis, 1942. 75 p.). The author, Jack Chernick, reaches the "tentative conclusion that the annual wage plan" inaugurated in 1929 by Austin's leading industry, a meat packing house, "is at least in part responsible for the creation of new jobs" in the community, thus giving the city greater economic stability than its neighbors.

The fiftieth anniversary of the International Milling Company and Robin Hood Flour Mills Limited, as recorded in the April issue of the company's trade journal, *The Grist*, commemorates the opening of a Minnesota mill at New Prague in 1892. Some "Interesting Events in the Early Days of the Company" at New Prague are recorded by F. A. Bean, a son of the founder of the concern, and other incidents relating to the mill at that place are recalled by J. J. Kovarik. A record of the company's mills in Minnesota, Iowa, New York, Texas, and Canada indicates that in the past it operated plants at Blue Earth and Wells, as well as at New Prague.

In a bulky volume on *The History of the Oil Business of George F. and J. Paul Getty from 1903 to 1939*, J. Paul Getty includes a brief account of his father's career as a lawyer in Minneapolis for nearly two decades before he became interested in Oklahoma oil. When the elder Getty organized the Minnehoma Oil Company in 1903, he coined its name by combining the first two syllables of Minnesota with the last two of Oklahoma.

WAR HISTORY ACTIVITIES

Evidence that the federal government recognizes the need for "more adequate records of administrative activities . . . not only for historical purposes but to provide a clearer insight into problems of public management and to contribute to the more effective utilization of present experience in post-war administration" is to be found in the appointment by the director of the Bureau of the Budget, at the suggestion of Presi-

dent Roosevelt, of an advisory Committee of Records of War Administration. Included in its membership are Professor Arthur Schlesinger of Harvard University, president of the American Historical Association, Professor William Anderson of the University of Minnesota, president of the American Political Science Association, and Dr. Solon J. Buck, archivist of the United States. The functions and activities of the committee are explained by Harry Venneman in an article on "Records of War Administration" appearing in the fall number of *Military Affairs*. The writer reports that "several of the largest and most important departments and emergency war agencies have undertaken extensive programs for the development of current records of their war activities, in line with the objectives and in some instances at the direct instigation of the Committee."

Those who are working to assemble and preserve the records of the present war should profit by studying the work of *Historical Units of Agencies of the First World War*, as set forth by Elizabeth B. Drewry in number 4 of the *Bulletins* of the National Archives (1942. 31 p.). The writer confines herself to the federal departments and "agencies in which some germ of the idea of the development of a unit for historical work appears to have existed." Thus she gives consideration to historical units of the war and navy departments, the Marine Corps, the state department, the shipping and war industries boards, the fuel, food, and relief administrations, and the Council of National Defense. Miss Drewry notes that in the records of the war of 1917-18 there are "large gaps in important files that should explain policies and describe procedures," and that it often is necessary to "go through much worthless material for some small item of significance." The importance of keeping adequate records is well brought out by Miss Drewry when she notes that "we may well wish today that more attention had been paid to" the preservation of records "during and after the first war in order, if not to prevent this one, at least to prepare us better for it." A more optimistic viewpoint is taken by Professor John W. Oliver in an article on "The Role of a Local Historical Society in Times of War," which appears in the *Western Pennsylvania Historical Magazine* for March-June. Professor Oliver gives those organizations credit for taking the "lead in collecting, compiling, and preserving all papers, documents, leaflets, and other data of historical value that any historian would need when he set to work to compile the history" of the war. The writer praises the work accom-

plished in Minnesota "in collecting, compiling, and publishing the war history records" of the state, and he asserts that Franklin F. Holbrook and Livia Appel's "two volumes on Minnesota in the World War rank among the best of the state war histories."

On October 1, less than five months after Governor Stassen established the Minnesota War History Committee (see *ante*, p. 149) local committees were organized and actively functioning in twelve cities and forty-two counties of the state. A list of these committees and their chairmen appears herewith. As additional committees are organized, they will be listed in the section of *Minnesota History* devoted to war history work.

Albert Lea War History Committee, L. W. Spicer, chairman.

Austin War History Committee, Harry A. Anderson, chairman.

Beltrami County War History Committee, Harold T. Hagg, Bemidji, chairman.

Benton County War History Committee, Mrs. Felix Latterell, Foley, chairman.

Big Stone County War History Committee, E. N. Schoen, Ortonville, chairman.

Brainerd War History Committee, Grace E. Polk, chairman.

Brown County War History Committee, Fred W. Johnson, New Ulm, chairman.

Carver County War History Committee, O. D. Sell, Mayer, chairman.

Chippewa County War History Committee, Dr. Anna Amrud, Montevideo, chairman.

Cottonwood County War History Committee, O. J. Nelson, Windom, chairman.

Crookston War History Committee, L. L. Landberg, chairman.

Crow Wing County War History Committee, Mrs. R. J. Libby, Crosby, chairman.

Dakota County War History Committee, Mrs. William F. Feely, Farmington, chairman.

Douglas County War History Committee, Mrs. Wallace Dougherty, Alexandria, chairman.

Duluth War History Committee, Rev. Frank A. Court, 215 North Third Avenue, chairman.

Faribault County War History Committee, Mrs. Carrie A. Bachtle, Blue Earth, chairman.

- Fillmore County War History Committee, George A. Haven, Chatfield, chairman.
- Goodhue County War History Committee, C. A. Rasmussen, Red Wing, chairman.
- Hennepin County War History Committee, Robert E. Scott, St. Louis Park, chairman.
- Hibbing War History Committee, George Fisher, chairman.
- Isanti County War History Committee, Mrs. Blaine B. Barker, Cambridge, chairman.
- Itasca County War History Committee, O. E. Saxhaug, Grand Rapids, chairman.
- Kandiyohi County War History Committee, Henry Southworth, Willmar, chairman.
- Kittson County War History Committee, C. J. Hemmingson, Hallock, chairman.
- Koochiching County War History Committee, Harriet Lloyd, International Falls, chairman.
- Lac qui Parle County War History Committee, Lillian Fjelde, Madison, chairman.
- Lake County War History Committee, Judge W. E. Scott, Two Harbors, chairman.
- McLeod County War History Committee, S. S. Beach, Hutchinson, chairman.
- Mahnomen County War History Committee, Harry C. Goodrich, Mahnomen, chairman.
- Mankato War History Committee, Dr. M. R. Coulter, chairman.
- Martin County War History Committee, E. L. Flygare, Fairmont, chairman.
- Mille Lacs County War History Committee, Rev. John H. Hinck, Milaca, chairman.
- Minneapolis War History Committee, Joseph Zalusky, 341 City Hall, chairman.
- Morrison County War History Committee, Mrs. Bernard N. Peterson, Little Falls, chairman.
- Mower County War History Committee, Mrs. N. V. Torgerson, Adams, chairman.
- Nobles County War History Committee, Mrs. Inez Madsen, Worthington, chairman.

Olmsted County War History Committee, S. L. Lyksett, Rochester, chairman.

Pipestone County War History Committee, Fred A. Busse, Pipestone, chairman.

Pope County War History Committee, Charles Glantz, Glenwood, chairman.

Red Wing War History Committee, C. A. Rasmussen, chairman.

Rice County War History Committee, Frank Kaisersatt, Faribault, chairman.

Rock County War History Committee, A. G. Suurmeyer, Luverne, chairman.

St. Cloud War History Committee, Mrs. George W. Friedrichs, chairman.

St. Paul War History Committee, Judge Gustavus Loevinger, 1551 Courthouse, chairman.

Steele County War History Committee, B. P. Leary, Owatonna, chairman.

Swift County War History Committee, Nina Brown, Benson, chairman.

Virginia War History Committee, A. M. DeYoannes, chairman.

Wabasha County War History Committee, E. L. Hibbard, Lake City, chairman.

Washington County War History Committee, E. L. Roney, Stillwater, chairman.

Watsonwan County War History Committee, George S. Hage, Madelia, chairman.

Wilkin County War History Committee, Clarence Gordhammern, Breckenridge, chairman.

Winona County War History Committee, Homer Goss, Lewiston, chairman.

Wright County War History Committee, Ray Yantes, Buffalo, chairman.

Yellow Medicine County War History Committee, Edwy O. Dibble, Granite Falls, chairman.

The executive secretary of the Wisconsin War Records Commission, Mr. Elmer Plischke, visited St. Paul on September 6 and 7 for the purpose of conferring with Dr. Lewis Beeson, director of the Minnesota War History Committee. A carefully prepared report of the conference was issued by Mr. Plischke on September 21. In it he points out differ-

ences in organization in the war history work that is being conducted in Minnesota and Wisconsin, and makes definite recommendations for the Wisconsin commission. A copy of Mr. Plischke's report has been received by the Minnesota War History Committee.

Most of the 107 donors reported *ante*, p. 292, have continued to send material to the Minnesota War History Committee. In addition, during August and September, it received gifts from 139 other sources, most of which are located outside Minnesota. The committee's policy of not duplicating material that is being received by the Minnesota Historical Society and other depositories in the state accounts for the preponderance of non-Minnesota items. Among the organizations from which periodicals, pamphlets, leaflets, and other printed and processed materials have been received recently are the American Legion National Headquarters of Indianapolis, the American Slav Congress of Pittsburgh, the American Youth Commission of Washington, the Association of American Railroads of Washington, the Belgian Information Center of New York, the Commission to Study the Organization of Peace of New York, the Jewish Welfare Board of New York, the National Education Association of Washington, the National League of Women Voters of Washington, the National Planning Association of Washington, and the Post War Council of New York.

Two of the twelve army camp newspapers received by the War History Committee have been issued under the editorship of Minnesotans. *The Bat*, published at Camp Croft, South Carolina, is edited by Private Rodney Loehr, formerly an instructor in history in the University of Minnesota and the author of several articles and reviews that have appeared in *Minnesota History*. In a letter to the acting superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society, Private Loehr describes in detail the procedure followed in issuing a camp newspaper. Until recently Corporal Gene Newhall, who was formerly with radio station WTCN and the *Minneapolis Times*, served as editor of the *Kodiak Bear* of Fort Greely, Alaska, a paper that the War History Committee has received from its inception. Corporal Newhall has now been transferred to an officers' training school. The fact that the "activities of a good number of Minnesota men" are covered in the *Kodiak Bear* is indicated in a letter from Lieutenant Theodore B. Tufte, a public relations officer stationed at Fort Greely. He expresses the belief that camp newspapers "are bound to con-

tain references of more than momentary interest" and are therefore worthy of permanent preservation.

Among the most interesting publications received by the War History Committee is *Hi Soldier*, a mimeographed monthly issued by the Minnesota Mutual Life Insurance Company for former employees who are now in the armed forces. It is made up largely of letters to those who remain in the home office at St. Paul from former employees now serving in widely separated localities. Through the medium of *Hi Soldier*, the men and women who once worked together in the company's office are enabled to keep in touch with one another. Included also are lists of men who are in the service, with their former and present addresses.

LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

In a setting rich in historical associations, the Washington County Historical Society has established its museum. It occupies a large house in Stillwater that was erected in the 1850's for use as a residence by the warden of what was then the territorial prison. Since it is built against a steep bluff and faces the beautiful St. Croix River, the museum's surroundings add much to its interest and attractiveness. Furthermore, it is within sight of a ravine that was the scene of a fierce battle between the Sioux and the Chippewa in 1839. Thus the visitor becomes conscious of the past of the St. Croix Valley before entering the Washington County museum.

The ownership of the old warden's residence, which was used until the new state prison was completed in 1912, was transferred to the Washington County society by legislative action in the spring of 1941. It was dedicated as a museum with appropriate ceremonies on June 20 of the latter year, when the property was officially presented to the society. In a little more than a year the local organization has furnished many of the rooms in appropriate Victorian style, and it has installed many interesting and valuable exhibits.

Upon entering the house, the visitor finds himself in a narrow hall with a central staircase. The parlor to the left is typically Victorian, with lace curtains and elaborately figured carpet. An upholstered settee and two matching chairs have intricately carved frames of black walnut. There are a number of small side tables with decorative oil lamps, and several portraits in massive frames hang on the walls. An old-fashioned piano and a spinet add to the mid-century atmosphere of this room. Back

of the parlor and opening into it is a library in which the society's books and manuscripts are arranged.

To the right of the entrance hall is the dining room, which is furnished with a table, chairs, and several side pieces. The table is set with china and silver, and interesting pieces of china and glassware are displayed on other tables and on the wide window sills. Back of the dining room is a small room, probably once used as an office or study. A large secretary is the chief item of furniture displayed there. Exhibits of silver, bags, and small accessories have been arranged in two display cases in this room. Hanging on the wall is an interesting button collection mounted on boards.

Five rooms on the second floor have been furnished or are used for exhibit purposes. Two of the rooms have been furnished in the style of the 1880's, with heavy wooden bedsteads, dressers, and chests. Other appropriate items in these rooms include a washstand, a cradle, a sewing machine, a spinning wheel, and a case filled with old-fashioned costumes. Perhaps the most attractive room in the house is the nursery, where a cradle, a child's bed, low and high chairs for infants, a baby buggy dating from 1873, and interesting collections of old-fashioned toys and children's clothing are on exhibit. A fourth room on this floor has been lined with shelves for the display of cooking and other domestic utensils, such as kettles, irons, butter molds, coffee grinders, and the like. Among the larger items in this room are an iron stove manufactured in Stillwater in the 1890's, a tin bath tub, and a sailor's chest. The fifth room is devoted to the society's picture collection, which is particularly rich in lumbering scenes. It includes also many interesting portraits and early views of Stillwater.

Some of the manuscripts assembled by the Washington County society deserve special attention. In this collection the lumber industry is well represented. It includes, for example, a little book kept in 1881 by Edward Rutherford, foreman of the St. Croix Boom Company, in which he recorded for his own convenience the stamphammer marks used by the lumber firms then operating on the St. Croix. Some account books for the 1860's of the lumber firm of Walker, Judd and Veazie also are preserved in the Washington County museum. Most of the manuscripts in this collection are in some way related to the region's chief industry. Thus the names of many pioneer lumbermen are listed in a manuscript copy of the Washington County census of 1850. Probably this was the original enumer-

ation made by the census taker. The largest single collection in the society's possession consists of accounts, time books, and other items from the papers of William Willim, a pioneer contractor at Stillwater. Students interested in frontier economic conditions and in labor will find this collection of special value. The time books, covering the years from 1856 to 1880, give detailed figures on wages and hours of each employee; and other volumes record plans for buildings, costs, and prices charged, and list materials used.

The founding of the Washington County museum was in large measure a result of the effective leadership of its president, Mr. E. L. Roney. The exhibits were assembled and arranged by a group of special committees. One committee has collected furniture, another, pictures, another, books and manuscripts, still another, old glass, and the like. Miss Annie Connor acts as chairman of the museum committee, with general supervision over the special committees. During the summer the museum is open to the public three afternoons a week, when an admission charge of twenty-five cents is made. The funds thus raised help to maintain the property. In addition to exhibit rooms, the museum building contains an assembly room on the first floor, where meetings can be held and refreshments are served. When the weather is favorable, the society holds its meetings on the beautiful lawn that stretches out toward the river in front of the museum.

B. L. H.

A centennial of international significance was celebrated at Fort William on August 1 in connection with the fourteenth annual meeting of the North Shore Historical Assembly. It was appropriate that this organization, which is composed of the historical societies of St. Louis, Cook, and Lake counties in Minnesota and the Thunder Bay Historical Society of Ontario, Canada, should mark the one-hundredth anniversary of the Webster-Ashburton treaty, for by its terms the boundary between Minnesota and Canada was fixed. Boundaries as far south as the St. Louis River had been considered previously; thus the negotiations of 1842 gave to Minnesota the vast iron wealth of the Arrowhead country. At the dinner meeting that marked the centennial, Minnesota was officially represented by its state treasurer, the Honorable Julius E. Schmah; and the Minnesota Historical Society was represented by its curator of manuscripts, Dr. Grace Lee Nute, who spoke on the treaty and the voyageur. Representing the Canadian government were Mr. W. J. Bennett,

executive secretary of the department of munitions and supply, and Mr. Lawrence J. Burpee, secretary of the International Joint Commission. An address on "One Hundred Years of North America," presented by Mr. Burpee, is published in the September issue of this magazine. It was particularly fitting that Mr. Burpee should speak on this occasion, since the commission of which he is Canadian secretary deals with boundary disputes.

The dinner meeting was preceded by an afternoon session in the Thunder Bay society's museum in the Fort William library building. In response to the welcome extended by Mayor C. M. Ross of Fort William, Judge Julius E. Haycraft, a vice-president of the Minnesota Historical Society, spoke briefly. The four societies that comprise the North Shore assembly were represented by speakers on the program that followed. Papers were read by the Reverend Oswald Johannes of the Cook County society on "Catholic Missionary Work in Cook County"; by Bruce Elliott of the Lake County society on the "History of the Iron Ore Industry, Lake Superior Basin"; by Otto E. Wieland of the St. Louis County society on "Ontario and Minnesota"; and by Keith Denis of the Thunder Bay society on "The Silver King of the Eighties," Oliver Daunais, who discovered a profitable silver mine in the vicinity of Fort William.

Minnesota visitors, many of whom went to Fort William from Duluth by boat, also attended sessions arranged by the North Shore assembly on August 2 and 3. The program on Sunday, August 2, included a special religious service on Mount McKay and an evening session at Chippewa Park. Papers on the "Geological History of the Lake Superior Basin" by Jules Cross and on "Ojibway Legends" by Dr. Herman Bryan were presented. Following the latter paper a ceremony was staged by the local Chippewa, who conferred titles of chief and princess upon several of the visitors. A trip to Kakabeka Falls, visits to historic sites and trails in its vicinity, and a luncheon brought the meeting to a close on August 3.

A room in the new courthouse at Detroit Lakes has been reserved for use as a museum by the Becker County Historical Society. A membership drive arranged by the society early in September raised the membership roll to two hundred before the end of the month.

The acquisition by the Carver County Historical Society of the library and records of the Carver County Deutscher Leseverein was announced in a number of Carver County newspapers in July (see *ante*, p. 294).

Accounts of this important collection and descriptions of the activities of the reading society appear in the *Waconia Patriot* for July 9, the *Weekly Valley Herald* of Chaska for July 16, and the *Carver County News* of Watertown for July 30.

The dedication on July 12 of the restored chapel of the Lac qui Parle mission was the occasion for an elaborate program of religious services, talks, and addresses, arranged under the auspices of the Chippewa County Historical Society. Among the speakers were the Reverend Albert Heninger of Peever, South Dakota, who preached the dedication sermon; Mr. Harold W. Lathrop, director of the division of state parks; and Dr. Arthur J. Larsen, superintendent of the state historical society, who presented the principal address. He took as his subject "The Missionary in the Development of Minnesota." A historical sketch of the mission is contributed to the *Montevideo American* of July 10 by Dr. Anna Amrud, chairman of the committee which arranged the dedication program. In the printed program issued for the occasion are notes on the American Board of Commissioners for Foreign Missions, which established the Lac qui Parle mission in 1835, and brief sketches of the missionaries who served there.

The summer months brought an addition to the list of Minnesota's local historical societies with the organization, as the result of a series of meetings, of the Chisago County Historical Society. Preliminary meetings were held at Lindstrom on June 27 and July 14. At North Branch on August 18 a committee was named to draw up a constitution, which was adopted at Center City on September 22. At the latter place Dr. Lewis Beeson, acting superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society, spoke on "The Local Historical Society and Its Work." The officers of the new society are Bert Merling, president, Theodore Norelius, vice-president, Mrs. Stanley Folsom, secretary, and Hjalmar Anderson, treasurer.

An exhibit arranged by the Fillmore County Historical Society at the county fair at Preston from August 29 to 31 attracted hundreds of interested visitors. Portraits of pioneers, objects used in frontier homes, books, and documents were included in the display.

Life among the early Czech settlers of McLeod County was recalled by some of their descendants at a meeting of the Hutchinson chapter of the McLeod County Historical Society on July 21. Among the speakers were Mrs. Josephine Miska and Mrs. Erick Fratzke.

More than six hundred people gathered at Fairmont on August 30 for the fourteenth annual summer meeting of the Martin County Historical Society, which centered about a program of wartime interest. The international situation was discussed by the principal speaker, Professor Harold Deutsch of the department of history in the University of Minnesota. A second speaker, Major Arthur M. Nelson, surveyed the role of Martin County in wars of the past.

A meeting of the Meeker County Historical Society, held on August 16 near Grove City, commemorated the eightieth anniversary of the beginning of the Sioux War of 1862. Among the speakers who addressed the gathering was Mrs. Martha Merrill of Hutchinson, one of the few people still living who remembers some of the events of the massacre. Articles in the *Meeker County News* of Litchfield for August 20 and 27 relate the story of the murders in Acton Township that marked the beginning of the outbreak.

An appeal for the preservation of "pioneer landmarks," physical and spiritual, was made by James R. Crawford of Beaver Creek when he spoke before the tenth annual meeting of the Nobles County Historical Society at Worthington on August 16. About a hundred people were present. Mrs. C. R. Thompson was elected president of the organization, G. M. Walker, vice-president, Mrs. A. G. Satre, treasurer, and Stanley E. Nelson, secretary.

Members of the Washington County Historical Society gathered at Forest Lake for a picnic meeting on August 11. A paper on the history of Forest Lake was presented by Mrs. Clara Telander. For residents of the southern part of Washington County, a special meeting was arranged at the home of Mr. and Mrs. J. V. Bailey near Newport on August 25. Mrs. Grace McAlpine read a historical sketch of Newport, prepared by Mrs. Mary E. Keck, and Mrs. Mary Bailey reviewed the history of the Bailey family.

LOCAL HISTORY ITEMS

A brief history of Pleasant Mound Township in Blue Earth County, appearing in the *Amboy Herald* for September 11, was contributed by W. O. Wiederhoeft. It consists for the most part of lists of names of early settlers and of township and other officers. The various names by which the township has been known since 1865 also are given.

An account of "Coming to America in 1868" from Norway and settling at Hanska in Brown County appears in three installments in *Our Young People*, a weekly issued by the Augsburg Publishing House, for August 9, 16, and 23. The story of the voyage from Norway aboard a sailing vessel and of frontier life in Minnesota has been recalled by Ole K. Broste, and recorded by Petra M. Lien. The narrator was an infant when his parents joined a group emigrating from Romsdalen, Norway. He tells of the journey to the West, and of the hardships of pioneering, such as grasshopper plagues, prairie fires, and blizzards.

A letter written in 1934 by the late A. C. Von Hagen, who settled in Sleepy Eye in 1885 and lived there for many years, is published in full in the *Sleepy Eye Herald-Dispatch* for September 3. In it he tells how the grave of the Sisseton chief for whom the Brown County city is named was located in 1899 with the result that the remains were removed to Sleepy Eye and a monument was erected over the new place of burial.

The historical sketch of Chisago County prepared for *Who's Who in Minnesota* by Bert Merling has been expanded by the author for publication in installments in the *Chisago County Press*. Sections dealing with specific communities appear in some issues. The story of Franconia, a St. Croix Valley ghost town, is published in the *Press* for July 9, and various phases of the history of Taylors Falls are reviewed in installments appearing from July 16 to August 20.

"A History of Newburg Township and the Village of Mabel" in Fillmore County, prepared as a master's thesis in the University of Minnesota by William H. Cartwright, Jr., has been appearing in installments in the *Mabel Record* since August 7. The narrative opens with an account of the acquisition of a section of southeastern Minnesota as the result of Indian treaties and the removal of the Winnebagoes in 1848. Lists of early settlers in the township, particularly the Norwegians who established homes there, accounts of the communities that grew up in the vicinity of Mabel, descriptions of frontier life and customs in the region, and analyses of the census records of 1860 and 1870 are presented in chapters published in the *Record* for August 14 and 29 and September 18 and 25.

A vivid picture of frontier domestic life in southern Minnesota is presented in the *Chatfield News* for September 3 and 10 by Mrs. Edith

Wright of Spring Valley, whose father, James Price, settled near Eyota in 1859. Much attention is given to the food that appeared on the dinner tables of the pioneers, and the methods used in preparing and preserving native products. Household remedies, furniture, cooking and other domestic utensils, lighting equipment, and the arrangement of living quarters are mentioned. Among the well-remembered dishes recalled by Mrs. Wright are "homegrown buckwheat flour pancakes" with bacon drippings and black strap, dried corn, salted cucumbers, salt-rising bread, ginger cake, soda biscuits, maple syrup, and hominy. Her narrative is published in a column devoted to the "Chatfield Quiz," which has presented each week since July 16 questions and answers relating to local history. Another contributor to the column is Miss Margaret Snyder. She outlines the ordinances passed at a meeting of the village council in 1857 in the *News* for August 20, and reviews some early cases handled in the local courts in the issue for August 27. The efforts made from 1910 to 1914 by the local Commercial Club to improve roads in the vicinity of Chatfield are recounted by Miss Snyder in the columns published on September 17 and 24.

Much material about Swedish settlement in Minneapolis is to be found in an anniversary booklet entitled *Seventy-five Years of Christian Service in Minneapolis*, issued by the Augustana Evangelical Lutheran Church of Minneapolis (1941. 75 p.). The founding of the church in 1866 is described, and its growth during three quarters of a century is reviewed. Accounts of the founding and development of church organizations also are presented. An unusual feature of the booklet is a section entitled "What the Archives Contain." There are listed the manuscript records of the church, with brief descriptive statements and notations of the years covered. Printed programs, photographs, and motion pictures made on special church occasions in recent years also are preserved, according to this record. That the church appreciates the value of its archives is evident from the statement that "all inactive records are stored in the vault erected for that purpose."

Under the title "Roaming the Rural Routes of Hubbard County," the *Akeley Herald-Tribune* has been publishing sketches of local historical interest since June 5. The early installments, which deal with exploration and settlement in the vicinity of Akeley, the organization of the county, industrial beginnings, and similar matters, were prepared by Charles F.

Scheers. The narratives published after July 31 present descriptions of local farms and their owners, some of whom are original settlers or their descendants. Sara Ellen Tandy is the author of the later installments.

Fathers Francis Pierz, Joseph Buh, Thomas Borgerding, Simon Lampe, Roman Homar, and Felix Nelles are among the Catholic missionaries who figure in a history of St. Joseph's Mission at Ball Club, published in the *Deer River News* for July 2. A picture of the mission church and guild hall, where a Catholic Indian congress was held late in June, appears with the article. Some information about the Chippewa for whom the mission was established and about the building of the church also is included.

The "first mention of an Itasca county fair, in old files of county newspapers, is in the *Grand Rapids Magnet* for August 16, 1892," according to the *Grand Rapids Herald-Review* for August 19. The column of that paper entitled "Up in This Neck of the Woods" is devoted to the early history of the county fair. According to this account, several annual fairs were held before the Itasca County Agricultural Association was incorporated in May, 1895. In the same column for September 30, the ruins of some cabins, believed to have been used by early trappers in Itasca County, are described.

The "Old Roche Ranch," a pretentious establishment maintained on the shores of Round Lake in Jackson County in the late decades of the nineteenth century, is the subject of an article in the *Worthington Daily Globe* for September 4. On a tract of two thousand acres purchased in 1879, Owen H. Roche of Chicago erected elaborate buildings, including a "magnificent 26-room 'farm house' in a region where the ordinary settlers were only just beginning to timidly emerge from their dugouts and sod houses." There Roche lived in "baronial fashion," raising blooded beef cattle and "fine porkers," and entertaining large numbers of friends for the hunting season. The writer of the present account reports that in 1901, shortly before his death, Roche sold his Minnesota holdings. The huge barn and some of the other structures on his ranch still are standing, and they are pictured with the article. Some local transportation history is recounted in the *Jackson County Pilot* for July 9, which tells of the improvement of a road that has been in use in Belmont Township since the 1850's. The road, which included a steep grade over the Kilen

Hills, was used as an overland mail route as early as 1856, but it was considered unsafe for modern motor vehicles.

The removal to the Lincoln County fair grounds of a frontier log cabin built in Royal Township in 1873 is announced in the *Ivanhoe Times* for June 10. The structure was presented to the county fair association by the grandchildren of Jonas Swenson, a Swedish immigrant who erected the cabin and lived in it for many years. Its preservation makes available an example of a typical frontier dwelling. A picture of the cabin accompanies the description of the structure.

The site of Fort Ridgely was the scene of a celebration on August 22 commemorating the eightieth anniversary of the siege of the fort in the Sioux War of 1862. The principal address was presented by Senator Joseph H. Ball, and a talk on the early history of the region was given by Mr. A. A. Davidson of Renville.

"Fish stories" that tell of catching "85 black bass of uniformly large size" in three hours in 1874, of taking "507 sunfish, not counting some large fish" in 1889, and of hooking "96 bass and five pike in two and a half hours" as late as 1904 are included in a collection of fishing yarns culled from early Fergus Falls newspapers and reprinted in the *Fergus Falls Journal* for August 24. Records of the landing of salmon trout and of huge sturgeon in the Red River also are presented.

The activities of pioneer musical organizations in St. Paul are reviewed briefly by Albert L. Eggert in an article entitled "When St. Paul Was Young," which appears in two installments in the *St. Paul Shopper* for July 1 and 9. Special attention is given to the Great Western Band organized by George Siebert, Sr., and to the band concerts held for many years in Como Park.

The issue of the *Buffalo Lake News* for July 16 is an illustrated "golden anniversary edition," which contains numerous articles of local historical interest and gives special attention to the development of commercial projects in the Renville County community. It is interesting to note that a number of local business concerns are as old or older than the paper. The editorial page is devoted to a history of the *News*, which was established in 1892 by John Riebe. Some reminiscences of J. R. Landy, who edited the paper from 1899 to 1907, are included in this account.

Some of the backgrounds of the Northwest Angle country are brought out by Herbert L. Mueller in an article calling attention to the district's possibilities as a "paradise for sport fishermen," appearing in the *Minneapolis Sunday Tribune* for September 20. Mentioned in the account are La Vérendrye and Fort St. Charles, the marker on its site, and the old Dawson trail. Some description of the modern community in this northernmost section of the United States also is given.

The fact that the present year marks the ninetieth anniversary of the founding of Henderson is noted in a review of its early history appearing in the *Henderson Independent* for July 24. Emphasis is given to the role of Joseph R. Brown in founding the community and establishing its early business concerns, including a local newspaper. In another column appears an account of the services of Mr. G. A. Buck, who this year celebrates the completion of half a century as owner and editor of the *Independent*.

The seventy-fifth anniversary of the German Farmers' Mutual Fire Insurance Company, which was organized in Washington County in the spring of 1867, is commemorated in a series of interesting articles about the company's origin and history in the *Stillwater Post-Messenger* for August 20. An article by the company's president, Mr. Louis Pagel, sketches the background of German settlement in Woodbury, Oakdale, Afton, Lakeland, Baytown, and Grant townships which preceded the organization of the company. Many of the German pioneers who settled in Washington County had lived earlier in New York state, where they had organized for "mutual assistance," and when they "came to Minnesota, they carried on" that policy, writes Mr. Pagel. He presents also an outline of the financial growth of the company, based upon its manuscript records. Other items relating to the history of this organization are biographical sketches of members of its board of directors, a list of the signers of its first constitution, and a copy of the articles of incorporation drawn up in 1879.



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