

Reviews of Books

Caesars of the Wilderness: Médard Chouart, Sieur des Groseilliers, and Pierre Esprit Radisson, 1618-1710. By GRACE LEE NUTE. (New York and London, D. Appleton-Century Company, Incorporated, 1943. xvi, 386 p. Illustrations, maps. \$4.00.)

About the year 1670, when the English were firmly settled on Barbados and Jamaica, in Virginia, New York, and New England, they essayed two new ventures in North American expansion. To the warm lands south of the James River they sent colonists to establish Carolina province. To the chilly wastes of Hudson Bay they sent vessels to open up a direct fur trade between London and the rich beaver country lying west and south of that great inland sea. The story of the latter outward push forms the central theme of Dr. Nute's illuminating and rewarding narrative: how English merchant capitalism, backed by the crown, added a new trading frontier by taking hold of and exploiting the Hudson Bay area.

Step by step from the very beginning, the author shows how a pair of dissatisfied residents of New France, Des Groseilliers and Radisson, saw great riches in the prosecution of the interior fur trade according to a new policy or method which they had hit upon as a result of their travels deep into the interior wilderness, and hawked about this valuable notion to successive merchant groups in New England, London, Paris. In the search for proper financial support, needed to convert their plan into reality, they met with numerous disappointments, but eventually, with success. A coterie of rich Londoners was persuaded to back them; they gained the use of ships, provisioned and manned; and cargoes of their own choosing were selected. Hazardous voyages from England to Hudson Bay proved what these two Frenchmen had believed — that a direct trade from the bay to the Thames was quite possible. The coterie incorporated themselves in 1670 as the Hudson's Bay Company.

For a while the two men from New France were cherished by the English capitalists, but not permanently, and the time came when they returned to their French allegiance, only to engage later in complicated and sinuous intrigues, motivated, quite understandably, by self-interest. The comings and goings of the two traders, their travels and plots and

exploits of leadership in the wilderness and at the council board, fill many a page of the story Miss Nute tells. It is evident that the "western" quality in life in North America appeared early in the history of this continent. The French crown, of course, frowned upon the extension of English enterprise to the country north of the St. Lawrence and tried force, bribery, as well as diplomatic intervention to foil the English design, but though the subjects of the two nations fought bloodily on the northern waters, it turned out that England was on the bay for good. That nation had seized another sector of the far-flung Anglo-American trading frontier.

This northward extension, it may be ventured, is the central theme of the book. But such a generalization — and it includes the international rivalry with France that grew out of the English advance — obscures the rich variety of topics and events on which the author touches, and always to clarify and illuminate. She shows, for example, the significance of the little trading post of Three Rivers as a nursery of explorers and an active center of the fur trade with the West. She puts on a firm basis our knowledge of the explorations and discoveries of Des Groseilliers and Radisson in the regions of the upper lakes and countries roundabout. She adds something to the history of coastal New England, showing how the merchants there pondered on what it might profit them to open up a trade with the bay. She lays bare the story of complicated intrigues between different French religious orders, each of which sought to dominate the religious and missionary scene in New France. The story of Anglo-French diplomacy, in relation to the conflicting interests of the two powers in the regions of the Far North, is given fresh clarification. The origin of diplomatic policies in commercial interests is suggested in the particular case of the early history of the Hudson's Bay Company.

This richly freighted volume reports the conclusions of a research project which was begun a decade and more ago and has now been brought to this successful conclusion. The author has spared no pains to make the work authoritative, and this epithet can justly be applied to it. She has produced a clear, flowing narrative, which represents a triumph of constructive power in the face of the great difficulties inherent in the history of a period that is only in our day responding to modern historical scholarship. Her task abounded with religious, political, economic, diplomatic, and biographical problems, which often combined themselves to make solutions far from easy. But Dr. Nute, treading with caution and

yet with the confidence derived of honest, patient study, follows the trail without once coming to grief. To archival collections, far and near, to great libraries on this continent and in Europe, to a castle in England, and to placid villages in the French countryside, this researcher traveled while hunting for the source materials on which her book is based. The writings of previous scholars on her subject she has subjected to careful examination. But lightly she wears her learning! Her story marches ahead plainly and entertainingly. She writes gracefully at all times, and when occasion warrants, with dramatic effect. It is a pleasure to watch her keen critical analysis of difficult source material. The reviewer has in mind her examination of Radisson's narrative in chapter 5, as one example.

In the footnotes is a goodly quantity of special learning. These buttress her narrative at every point; and they will provide numerous points of departure for scholars of the future who work in the history of northern North America. They are especially rich in bibliographical data, but they provide much information on persons and family and business connections of this period. Fifteen appendixes make available pivotally important source documents. Reproductions of contemporary maps embellish the text; some of them are from rare manuscript maps. A carefully classified bibliography of archival and printed material is supplied. This is a volume that stands and withstands sharp scrutiny. It takes its place at once as one of the fundamental works for the study of North American history in the seventeenth century. Those who follow will always have occasion to be grateful to Miss Nute for this splendid and important accomplishment in historical scholarship.

The publishers have done well in paper and print and binding. The sketch maps of the northern countries, with their many lakes and rivers of importance in the story, were assigned to the end papers. This location, in the reviewer's opinion, is less than satisfactory, for when the book is rebound, as one day it must be, the maps on end papers will vanish. A better solution would have been to tip the map, folded, into the book; a larger sketch map could then have been supplied.

FULMER MOOD

The Journal of La Vérendrye, 1738-39. Translated and annotated by HENRY E. HAXO. (Reprinted from the *North Dakota Historical Quarterly*, vol. 8, no. 4, July, 1941, p. 229-271. Maps.)

This much-translated journal has been translated again! The layman cannot avoid the feeling that paper, ink, time, and money are being wasted. Without giving the French text, the editor and the translator, who is the head of the Romance languages department in the University of North Dakota, expect the reader to conclude that this most recent effort is superior to the three preceding ones. They are Douglas Brymner's in the *Report* of the Public Archives of Canada for 1889, Lawrence J. Burpee's in his monumental edition of La Vérendrye's work published by the Champlain Society, and Charles E. De Land's in volume 7 of the *South Dakota Historical Collections*.

The present translation seems to vary from the earlier ones in some seventeen instances, if one may judge by the preface and the footnotes. The reader is unable to evaluate the worth of these changes because the French text is not supplied fully in any instance. Some of these alterations seem slight; others appear of more consequence. The greatest undoubtedly is one of opinion only. It involves a question that only anthropologists can answer with certainty: should the Indian-French word "Mantannes," as used by La Vérendrye, be translated "Hidatsa" or "Mandan" Indians? Dr. Haxo concludes that Hidatsa is the correct rendering, if the rather lengthy introduction by O. G. Libby may be presumed to speak also for the translator.

As one can infer from the title and the controversy over the proper translation of "Mantannes," the volume presents La Vérendrye's report, in journal form, of his trip overland from the Red River to the Missouri River in the years 1738 and 1739.

G. L. N.

The Red River Valley, 1811-1849: A Regional Study. By JOHN PERRY PRITCHETT. (New Haven, Yale University Press, 1942. xvii, 295 p. Maps. \$2.75.)

The patch-quilt series of publications on the *Relations of Canada and the United States*, sponsored by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace, continues to give us its multicolored and odd-fitting pieces without including in any volume the prospectus of the whole which might let us see that there really is a great design expanding under our

eyes. But while we may wonder a little about that design, or about the inclusion or apparent omission of certain topics, or about the selection of some of the writers, we must recognize promptly and unequivocally that the series has already given us a few brilliant studies of international relations and a few contributions of solid scholarship to Canadian national history. To this second class the present work belongs, although both general editor and author go to some trouble to explain the international character of its subject. But in the end the author admits that, for the time here covered, the politics represented by the forty-ninth parallel defeated the economics represented by the internationally shared line of communication of the Red River.

Such is the treatment of the main theme of the volume, the attempt of the Earl of Selkirk to establish in the British portion of the Red River Valley a colony of distressed emigrants from the British Isles. Dr. Pritchett has studied with minute application not only the extensive transcripts of Selkirk's papers in the Public Archives of Canada, but also the originals in the old Selkirk seat at St. Mary's Isle in Scotland. He is also thoroughly cognizant of the auxiliary documents and literature. "Reading maketh a full man." He has worked the subject over exhaustively in a mind well equipped with scholarly training, historical sense, and common sense—they are not far apart. The result is a clear, comprehensive, interesting narrative, adhering with precise accuracy to the evidence, but developed into a well-integrated, intelligible whole. An extensive apparatus of footnote references enables the reader at every step to check the facts or expand the interpretation.

The story of the Red River Valley prior to the appearance on the scene of Lord Selkirk is told more broadly, but adequately. That of the occupation, by fur trader and settler, of the United States side of the boundary is a well-prepared summary of most of the results of a vast number of original studies by many historical students. The story of the British settlement from the passing of Selkirk to 1849, and of its relations with its neighbors to the south, is a good, workaday presentation of historical investigation, but the reader feels a distinct letdown from the exhaustiveness and the high intensity of the main portion of the book. In fact, he can hardly help feeling that the work drops into an anticlimax and a *non sequitur*. The author seems to sense this himself, for in his final chapter he is at considerable pains to explain how the later history of the Canadian West and of its relations with cultural centers to the south and

to the east are the culmination, for the present, of the beginnings here described. The explanation offered seems to be that the later history has been well treated elsewhere (in this particular connection two important recent publications are not mentioned). Perhaps this adherence to a principle of conservation of research energy is worthy of all praise. But I fear most of us will wish that the directors had said to Dr. Pritchett: "Take six hundred pages—or two volumes—and see the thing through."

I have noticed only one statement of fact which is sufficiently important and sufficiently subject to doubt to justify a query. On page 45 Dr. Pritchett continues the traditional explanation that Lord Selkirk obtained his land grant from the Hudson's Bay Company by buying a controlling interest of that company's stock. This has been denied, with some detail, by Professor Arthur S. Morton. We should have liked a fuller discussion from Dr. Pritchett.

The bibliography is extensive, but the addition of a little commentary would have helped the neophyte. The collection of documents in the Provincial Library of Manitoba, transcripts of some of which are in the Public Archives of Canada, might have been mentioned.

Misprints are very few. On page 277, line 14, "Fowell" should be "Folwell."

JAMES F. KENNEY

The Hidden Civil War: The Story of the Copperheads. By WOOD GRAY.
(New York, The Viking Press, 1942. 314 p. Illustrations, maps.
\$3.75.)

The publication of Wood Gray's *The Hidden Civil War* is very opportune, for it gives, in the story of the Copperheads, an account of a "fifth column" of great proportions and ceaseless activity. And yet Professor Gray, beginning his research long before America was at war and, indeed, before the phrase "fifth column" was given its present connotation, was not concerned with the modern implications of his work.

The Hidden Civil War is an account of the antiwar and defeatist movements in the North during the years 1861-65, and it should especially attract all readers whose interests lie in the region known as the Old Northwest. The background for the divided opinions and bitter opposition to war policies, so evident in this area, is carefully and fully developed in the early chapters of the book, with material drawn largely from local contemporary newspapers and from the words of the spokes-

men of all parties and factions. These chapters are exceedingly valuable for an understanding of the dubious role of the Northwest in much of the war effort. There is a careful analysis of the fluctuation of sentiment on the war in each Northwestern state in response to the ups and downs of military fortune, and an equally careful evaluation of the political opinions of each section to show the reasons for disaffection and the full force of the antiwar movements. The text is not long — little more than two hundred pages — but when Mr. Gray concludes his description of Copperheadism he has filled a major gap in the story of the Civil War and has fulfilled the pledge implied in his first paragraph, where he says "there is a story that is not to be found, except incidentally and incompletely, in all the mountain of books on the Civil War."

The part played by the various subversive secret societies is clearly shown, and the intricate organization of these groups as they succeeded each other on the scene is well described. Sabotage was a part of the story, as were encouragement of desertion and resistance to the draft. Of especial interest to present-day readers are the sections on conscription and those dealing with the restrictions on civil liberties in the war years. The dramatic stories of Clement L. Vallandigham's trial for sedition and his campaign for the governorship of Ohio lose nothing in the telling.

There is a little less emphasis in this book than in others in the field upon the famous conspiracy of 1864, which called for the use of Confederate funds to raise forces sufficient to free the Southerners in Northwest prison camps, and with their aid to win victories for the South that would have ended the war and have led to the formation of a Northwest confederation ready to enter into peace plans as an equal of the United States and the Confederacy. George Fort Milton, in his recently published *Abraham Lincoln and the Fifth Column*, and E. C. Kirkland, whose older *Peacemakers of 1864* was for a long time almost the only secondary work dealing with Copperheadism, have been more interested in this plot than in any other phase of the subject. Professor Gray's treatment, however, seems rather more in keeping with the results of the conspiracy and with contemporary knowledge of its rather nebulous methods and aims.

Throughout the book the author has been careful to make no comparison between the problems of the Civil War years and those of the present day, but in his last few paragraphs he castigates the Copperhead leaders as men who were willing to "sacrifice the Union rather than per-

mit the carrying out of a policy that had been adopted against their wishes" and avers that their "arrogant political egotism" was of a type that was dangerous in a democracy. "It is a mark by which they may be known that they appeal always to the basest and most selfish instincts and call pandering to such motives wisdom."

The book is provided with several interesting illustrations from contemporary material; the long and detailed bibliography is extremely valuable; and there is a good index. The extensive references to both source and secondary material are segregated at the end of the book.

ALICE FELT TYLER

Swedish Immigrants in Lincoln's Time. By NELS HOKANSON. With a Foreword by CARL SANDBURG. (New York and London, Harper & Brothers, 1942. xviii, 259 p. Illustrations. \$3.00.)

In his foreword, Carl Sandburg supplies an effective characterization of Mr. Hokanson's volume: "He has made a pleasant volume to read—and yet the stuff of history weaves through all the pages." Mr. Hokanson is a historian by avocation and this volume is a labor of love. Unlike many similar publications, however, this book is unpretentious, restrained, and even critical. Although there is evidence of filiopietism, it is not prominent, and one comes away with the impression that here is an honest book, based on laborious research over many years, reasonably well documented, filled with interesting personalities, not too well organized, frequently repetitious, rather indiscriminate in selection and emphasis, including some irrelevant material, and lacking the professional touch, but worth publishing.

The author concludes his first chapter, on the Colonial Swedish settlements on the Delaware, by noting that these "played no part in the movement which brought thousands of emigrants to America in the years after 1840," and one wonders why this material was included in the book. The same can be said for the brief second chapter on individual Swedes who came to America before the main movement started. The book gathers way in the third chapter on the beginnings of Swedish immigration on a considerable scale in the 1840's. There follows some account, with emphasis on personalities, of Swedish immigrants to the South, those among the forty-niners, and the Illinois settlers. Among the more interesting subjects treated is the Swedish immigrant support of

the Republican party and Lincoln. Much space — approximately half the volume — is devoted to Swedes in the Union and Confederate armed forces. At times the account becomes largely a catalogue of names. There is a useful chapter on the sympathetic official policy of Sweden toward the Union government during the Civil War.

Enough is presented on Lincoln's friendly relations with individual Swedes and the Swedish element in the United States to justify the title of the book. There is an appendix of miscellaneous material, chiefly concerning Swedish participation in the Civil War, an extensive bibliography, an adequate index, and a large number of illustrations, most of them photographs of Swedes who took part in the Civil War.

CARLTON C. QUALEY

A History of Livestock Raising in the United States, 1607-1860 (Agricultural History Series, no. 5). By JAMES WESTFALL THOMPSON. (Washington, United States Department of Agriculture, 1942. 182 p.)

All historians are familiar with the name of James Westfall Thompson, which they immediately associate with writings on the medieval period and in the field of historiography, but many, especially of the younger group, will be surprised to learn that this same scholar delved into the study of American agricultural history and even published a series of articles in the *Breeder's Gazette* in 1916 and 1918. The study under review is part of a longer work covering the history of livestock raising in the United States to 1916, completed by Professor Thompson in 1917. He submitted the manuscript to the department of agriculture in 1921, and during part of that year he was employed as an assistant in agricultural history in the department. The editing of the present publication was completed by Everett E. Edwards, H. Goldenstein, and Mrs. Anne C. Chew after the author's death in September, 1941.

Thompson's touch is unmistakable throughout, however; the careful scholarship, the mass of detail, the thoroughness — are all reminiscent of his better-known works. The story traces the development of the American livestock industry from its European background to 1860, covering as it unfolds the whole American scene from New England and the South to California, Sante Fé, Oregon, and Utah. Many details of interest are included, such as an account of the origin of the Bowery in New York, an excellent description of the Pennsylvania Dutch farmers, an explana-

tion of the meaning of Indian summer, and explanations of the place names "Horsepen Fork" and "Hangdog Swamp." To enliven the text, numerous quotations from contemporary works are given, and the mule story on page 75 will make any reader smile. Of particular value is the appendix, which contains thirty pages of titles cited by the author, public records and statutes, original narratives, travel accounts, diaries, agricultural treatises, articles, and histories, many of them old and generally forgotten, as well as five pages of selected references pertaining to the history of livestock raising in the United States prior to 1860 and published since Professor Thompson completed his manuscript.

In places the difficulty of organization inherent in handling the chronological and topical treatments is evident and there is repetition exasperating to the reader. For example, it is noted on page 31 that Andrew Burnaby was "an English traveler in America in 1760"; four pages later the same description of him is repeated. On page 42 and again on the very next page the reader learns that the English secured New Sweden in 1664; and on page 37 Peter Stuyvesant is mentioned as conquering New Sweden in 1655, whereas on page 42 Peter Minuit is erroneously credited with making the same conquest in the same year. It is to be regretted that flaws such as these were allowed to mar this excellent monograph. The absence of an index detracts somewhat from the value of the volume for reference purposes. Nevertheless, all agricultural historians will thank the department of agriculture for making available the Thompson manuscript, if only in a paper binding, and every student of the ante-bellum history of the United States will profit by reading it.

MERRILL E. JARCHOW

The Montana Frontier. By MERRILL G. BURLINGAME, Ph.D. (Helena, Montana, State Publishing Company, 1942. xiii, 418 p. Illustrations, maps, charts. \$2.50.)

This scholarly volume brings to us a complete coverage of the frontier period of Montana. It is so well done that it will not need to be done again soon, if ever.

It opens with the stirring story of discovery. Not so well known as the Lewis and Clark expedition, but nevertheless of importance and one of the most amazing trips in the history of the West, was Colter's exploration of the present Yellowstone National Park area. When the explorers returned to the lower Missouri with their reports of the rich

fur-bearing area, fur companies moved into the upper Missouri. The discovery of gold in 1852 changed the mountain streams of the fur frontier into beehives of activity. Mining towns rose on gold-bearing areas. Lack of government promoted organized thievery, which goaded the miners into organizing the famous Montana Vigilantes. In a short time these bands of looters were wiped out. The army was used to protect the fur trade and remained to survey and build roads, the most famous of which was the Mullan road from Fort Benton, Montana, to Fort Walla Walla, Washington. Settlers encroached upon the Indians and then called on the government to protect them from Indian "outrages."

Transportation, from travel by various types of boats on the Missouri River to bull trains and stagecoaches on the overland trails, is fully treated. The settlers who poured into the territory touched off a series of conflicts with the Indians. The story of the white-Indian relations and the final settlement of the Indian problem occupies a large place in Montana frontier history. Eventually the Indians gave way to the cattlemen, with their cattle driven from Texas, and to the sheepmen, with their sheep driven from California and Oregon. Gradually the farmer pushed out from the early possessed irrigation sections in the valleys and onto the dry lands. There finally the frontier came to an ignominious end at the hand of the dirt farmer, the town builder, and industrialist.

The style, while not lively, is lucid and interesting. This reviewer has not discovered an unscholarly approach to any problem nor any error in fact. The volume will be welcomed by all lovers of frontier history, the scholar as well as the popular reader.

EVERETT DICK

St. Croix County Proceedings of the County Board of Supervisors, October 5, 1840–April 2, 1849 (Wisconsin Territorial Papers, County Series). (Madison, Wisconsin Historical Records Survey, 1941. 116 p.)

Students of history have long recognized that it is impossible to deal with history along the arbitrary lines laid down by state boundaries, for the interrelationships are too close. Thus Minnesotans must follow the records of Michigan, Wisconsin, and Iowa to get a true picture of their history.

St. Croix County, Wisconsin Territory, as established on January 9, 1840, extended from Lac Court Oreille to the Mississippi River, and

hence included the part of Minnesota lying east of that river. The *Proceedings* of the county commissioners for St. Croix County, therefore, concern Minnesota as much as they do Wisconsin. As a matter of fact residents of the Minnesota section clearly ran the entire county, for names and activities on the west bank of the St. Croix River dominate the *Proceedings*.

The entries in the volume under review begin on October 5, 1840, when Hazen Mooers of Gray Cloud Island and Samuel Berklee of Marine qualified as county commissioners, and Joseph R. Brown was sworn in as county treasurer as well as clerk of the board. Brown's townsite of Dakotah, later part of Stillwater, was designated as the county seat after the title to the land had been transferred to Brown upon payment of eight hundred dollars to himself as treasurer.

Election returns, tax collections, liquor and tavern licenses, ferry licenses, bills for road viewing, and expenses of all sorts, and even licenses to the Reverend William T. Boutwell, Father Ravoux, and others to "solemnize the rites of matrimony" are all duly recorded in these *Proceedings*. The final entry is dated April 2, 1849, after Minnesota Territory had been established. The contents of the volume provide a vivid picture of the problems of the settlers on a frontier.

Material of the type here published is immensely valuable for the historian. It is to be regretted, therefore, that the original records are not located in the present volume. They are preserved in the office of the county commissioners at Stillwater, Washington County, Minnesota. One could wish that in an otherwise useful index, someone familiar with Minnesota history could have synchronized the weird spellings of the transcription. The name of Auguste L. Larpenieur, for instance, appears as "Carpenter," "Larpenter," "Larpentern," and in other forms. Joseph Bowron of St. Croix Falls and Joseph R. Brown are occasionally confused. One may hazard a guess that part of the trouble lay in the inability of the person making the transcription for publication to read the handwriting accurately.

Despite certain shortcomings, this mimeographed publication makes a useful series of documents readily accessible. The Wisconsin Historical Records Survey has performed a valuable service for the people of the Northwest.

WILLOUGHBY M. BABCOCK

Minnesota Historical Society Notes

BECAUSE OF THE WAR and the difficulties involved in automobile travel, the society is not planning a summer tour and convention for 1943. Members will, however, have an opportunity to participate in a historical meeting of unusual interest and significance at Stillwater on August 21, when that community will commemorate its centennial. An invitation to participate in the celebration has been extended to the state society by the Washington County Historical Society, through its president, Mr. E. L. Roney. When plans have been completed, members will receive notices giving the details of the program. At least one speaker will represent the state society. Since Stillwater is near the Twin Cities and is connected with them by excellent transportation facilities, it is believed that many members and friends of the state historical society will find it possible to join the people of the St. Croix Valley city in marking its centennial.

Following a meeting of the society's executive council on April 19, a special program, which was attended by about a hundred and fifty people, was presented in the auditorium of the Historical Building. The speaker, Mrs. F. R. Bigelow of St. Paul, took as her subject the story of old Prairie du Chien, giving special attention to the activities of the Dousman family and describing the mansion which has been restored and is open to the public as a museum. Her address was illustrated with slides showing views of the early community, portraits of its leading citizens, and pictures of the Villa Louis, long the home of the Dousmans.

The index for volume 23 of *Minnesota History* has been printed and it is now available to all members of the society and subscribers to its publications. Unfortunately, as a result of wartime conditions, there has been considerable delay in binding the volume for 1942, and the most suitable cloth obtainable for the purpose does not match exactly that used on earlier volumes. The 1942 volume will not be ready for distribution until about August 1. As in the past, those who turn in four separate issues for the year may obtain the volume for the cost of binding and shipping, which this year amounts to seventy-five cents.

A former superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society, Dean Theodore C. Blegen of the graduate school in the University of Minne-

sota, was named president of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association on April 23, at the organization's annual meeting in Cedar Rapids, Iowa. He succeeds Dr. Charles H. Ambler of West Virginia University.

The honorary degree of doctor of letters was conferred upon Dr. Grace Lee Nute, curator of manuscripts on the staff of the Minnesota Historical Society, by Hamline University at its commencement exercises on May 23. In conferring the degree, President Charles N. Pace of Hamline University called attention to Dr. Nute's services to the cause of history, enumerating them as follows: "Professor of Minnesota History at Hamline University; Curator of Manuscripts at the Minnesota Historical Society; historian by virtue of your own scholarly research and publications, bringing to life again the forgotten yesterdays of early conquest of the wilderness, the epic story of valiant beginnings in America, the record of heroic men who laid the foundations for an orderly society and a new nation; archivist of distinction who has greatly augmented bodies of source material for the student of the Northwest and has originated a modern system for the cataloging of manuscripts; one-time Guggenheim fellow for research in Europe; member of important boards and commissions concerned with your specialty."

Several changes in the personnel of the society's staff have occurred during the quarter, largely as a result of wartime condition. Mr. Edward Werneke, assistant in the newspaper division, has been granted a leave of absence, and his place has been filled by the appointment of Mr. Edwin A. Blomgren. Mrs. Phyllis Sandstrom has been named chief clerk, replacing Mrs. Florence Trelogan, who has been on leave of absence since September. The position of stenographer in the general office, formerly held by Mrs. Sandstrom, was filled by transferring Mrs. Mary D. Burda from the manuscript division. In the latter division, Mrs. Mary McKenney has been employed to assist in the work of supplying census information, and Miss Mary Spring, a stenographer, has resigned.

The following nineteen annual members were added to the active membership of the society during the quarter ending on March 31: Axel B. Anderson of Owatonna, Dr. Karl W. Anderson of Minneapolis, Charles M. Bend of St. Paul, Dr. Lawrence R. Boies of Hopkins, Dr. John J. Catlin of Buffalo, Mrs. J. T. Challman of St. Paul, Lewis L. Drill of St. Paul, Oscar Hallam of St. Paul, Dr. Leo Hertel of Franklin, Indiana, Reverend Emeroy Johnson of Little Falls, Dr. Gordon R. Kam-

man of St. Paul, Rollin A. Lanpher of St. Paul, Miss Petra Lien of Mankato, Dr. John R. Meade of St. Paul, James E. Montague of Crookston, Mrs. O. V. Palmer of Excelsior, Mrs. Georgiana C. Smith of Minneapolis, Alfred Solstad of Fisher, and Reverend Henry A. Steichen of Wheaton.

The society lost five active members by death during the first three months of 1943: Mrs. Walter L. Chapin of St. Paul on January 11, Miss M. Isabelle Davidson of Minneapolis on January 11, Mrs. Mary E. Coffin of Duluth on February 8, James H. Rees of Minneapolis on February 8, and George B. Lane of Minneapolis on March 23.

Mr. Babcock contributes to the April issue of the *Conservation Volunteer* a brief account of the organization, procedure, and policies of the Minnesota Historic Sites and Markers Commission, which was established under a law passed by the legislature in 1941.

A radio talk on "The North Shore of Lake Superior" was presented by Miss Nute over WLB, the station of the University of Minnesota, on February 24.

CONTRIBUTORS

Miss Margaret Snyder was attracted by the story of Chatfield, "a little town that didn't grow up," while she was teaching in that community shortly after her graduation from Hamline University. She looks upon the present "Essay in Economic History," which is the first concrete result of her interest in the subject, as a preliminary survey of one aspect of a study that will eventually develop into a full-length book. The forwarding of her project was materially advanced recently by a scholarship in regional writing awarded by the University of Minnesota under a grant from the Rockefeller Foundation.

Dr. Alice Felt Tyler, assistant professor of history in the University of Minnesota, recounts herein some pioneering experiences in Meeker County by members of an Illinois family which had its roots in Massachusetts. Her article on "The Westward Movement as Reflected in Family Papers" will remind readers that she has frequently contributed reviews to this magazine. Incidentally, she is represented also in the book review section of the present issue. She is the author of a volume on the *Foreign Policy of James G. Blaine* (Minneapolis, 1927), and of a book dealing

with American Utopian and reform movements of the early nineteenth century. The latter will be published in the near future by the University of Minnesota Press.

A former member of the history faculty of the University of Minnesota who recently received a commission as second lieutenant in the United States Army is the author of the article in this issue on "Caleb D. Dorr and the Early Minnesota Lumber Industry." Lieutenant Rodney C. Loehr, who is now stationed at Washington, D. C., edited the *Minnesota Farmers' Diaries* which the society published in 1939 in its *Narratives and Documents* series.

Miss Pauline Wold, whose "Recollections of the Leech Lake Uprising" of 1898 present an aspect of the event that has been rarely touched upon, now resides in Santa Barbara, California. At the time of the Indian outbreak she was a nurse in a private hospital at Brainerd; earlier she had been connected with hospitals in Minneapolis and Duluth.

Dr. Grace Lee Nute's recently published biography of Radisson and Des Groseilliers is reviewed in the present issue by Dr. Fulmer Mood, a former Guggenheim Fellow in American history who, like Dr. Nute, found in the archives of the Hudson's Bay Company and other seventeenth-century manuscripts in London a wealth of material relating to Radisson. Some of the results of his research were presented in an article published in this magazine for December, 1935. Dr. Mood is now assistant professor in the school of librarianship of the University of California.

Among other authors who are represented by reviews in the present issue are Dr. James F. Kenney, director of historical research for the Public Archives of Canada; Professor Carlton C. Qualey of the history faculty of Bard College, a branch of Columbia University located at Annandale-on-Hudson; Lieutenant Merrill E. Jarchow of the United States Navy, who is now stationed at Iowa City; Dr. Everett N. Dick, dean of Union College at Lincoln, Nebraska; and two members of the society's staff, Dr. Nute, curator of manuscripts, and Mr. Willoughby M. Babcock, curator of the museum.

ACCESSIONS

Thousands of letters written to and from the Indian office from 1819 to 1851, comprising the correspondence of the Michigan superintendency of Indian affairs and of subordinate agencies at Mackinac and Sault Ste.

Marie, have been copied for the society on microfilms from the originals in the National Archives. The letters, which fill sixty-seven rolls of film of a hundred feet each, are rich in Minnesota material. Among the individuals who are represented by letters or who are mentioned in the file are such prominent figures in the history of the state and the region as Henry R. Schoolcraft, Lewis Cass, Ramsay Crooks, George Johnston, Joseph R. Brown, William A. Aitken, Lyman Warren, Hercules L. Dousman, Edmund F. Ely, and Father Frederic Baraga. Some of the many topics with which the letters are concerned include the fur trade, the Sioux-Chippewa boundary, Indian missions, fishing on the Great Lakes, Indian annuities, the La Pointe subagency, and traders' licenses. The society has calendar cards made many years ago by Dr. Newton D. Mereness for most of the Indian office letters; they now serve as a convenient guide to this enormous collection.

A collection of valuable manuscripts relating to the early history of Hudson, Wisconsin, has been presented by Mr. Willis H. Miller of Hudson. Included are three volumes from the papers of James A. Andrews, a railroad surveyor at Hudson, and members of his family. They consist of the minutes of the St. Croix County Bible Society for the period from 1865 to 1899, the proceedings of the board of trustees of the First Baptist Church of Hudson for the years from 1854 to 1856, and the business journal of a local real-estate firm, Andrews and Comstock, for the 1850's and 1860's. Some sixty items from the papers of John Comstock, relating both to business and social life at Hudson from 1850 to 1936, are included in Mr. Miller's gift. He has presented also a letterpress volume of correspondence on court matters in the St. Croix Valley kept by Judge Otto W. Arnquist in 1895.

Some thirty items from the family papers of Amasa Richards, covering the years from 1855 to 1877, have been presented by his son, Mr. George W. Richards of Maple Plain. During much of the period involved, the family home was at Wayzata. Although many of the items were written by members of the Richards family in Massachusetts, a number give information on social and economic conditions in Minnesota, the Indian troubles of the 1860's, and the activities of the Union Army. The increasing industrial prosperity of Minneapolis and a railroad from that city to Watertown, Iowa, are mentioned in a letter written from Minnesota on August 13, 1865.

Typewritten copies of diaries kept by Albert C. Stuntz in 1858, from 1863 to 1865, from 1867 to 1869, and in 1882 have been reproduced on filmstrips for the society. Both the original diaries, which are written in pencil and are very difficult to decipher, and the typewritten copies are owned by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. They are rich in data on lumber camps and lumbering operations in the St. Croix Valley, and they include accounts of numerous trips from Bayfield, Wisconsin, where Stuntz lived, over an early mail trail to St. Paul.

Photostatic copies of two letters written from Minnesota in 1860 by James Shields and John Murphy have been received through the courtesy of the Illinois State Historical Library. The letters, which deal with Stephen A. Douglas' chances for winning the Democratic nomination for the presidency in 1860, are from the papers of John A. McClernand.

The career of a pioneer Minnesota mining engineer, Richard Eames, is reflected in his papers for the period from 1864 to 1894, recently received from his granddaughter, Mrs. M. B. Morgan of Martinville, Virginia. With his brother, Henry H. Eames, who was state geologist of Minnesota in the middle 1860's, Richard Eames made many reconnaissance trips about Lake Superior, in northern Minnesota, and westward into the Dakotas. Both men were active in exploring the Vermilion Lake region, taking back reports that resulted in the gold rush of the 1860's. Many interesting items in the collection relate to that incident in the history of northeastern Minnesota. Among the papers also are a diary kept on a trip along the North Shore of Lake Superior in 1864 and diaries for 1873 and 1876 describing mining operations on islands near Thunder Cape. The latter books are particularly valuable for detailed information about places and events at Fort William and Prince Arthur's Landing, now Port Arthur, in Ontario, and about Lake Superior shipping. Such steamboats as the "Manitoba," the "Cumberland," and the "Ontario" figure again and again in the diary entries made by Eames. One document reveals that Richard Eames was appointed assistant state geologist of Minnesota in May, 1866; others relate to a journey of exploration through Minnesota and the Dakotas made for the Northern Pacific Railway Company in 1873. Included in the collection is an issue for November, 1874, of *The Aurora*, an early Duluth imprint. It was written and published by Richard Eames, Jr., who was then a fifteen-year-old student in the Duluth High School.

Three volumes of grocery accounts and a postal rate book for literary materials entering St. Paul are included in some papers for the 1870's of Michael Iten, recently presented by his granddaughter, Miss Lucille Iten of St. Paul.

Five items from the papers of Nathan Butler, a pioneer Minnesota land surveyor, have been received from Congressman Usher L. Burdick of Fargo. They date from the period between 1874 and 1890 and relate to a reputed misuse of University of Minnesota lands. Included are newspaper clippings, and a privately printed broadside addressed to "The Class of '81," which contains a thinly veiled attack on Governor John S. Pillsbury.

The minutes of the Agassiz Club, a group of St. Paul boys interested in natural science, are contained in an unusual and interesting record book for the years from 1883 to 1887, presented by Dr. George E. Senkler of St. Paul.

Two diaries kept by Russell H. Folwell, a son of the first president of the University of Minnesota, in 1898 and 1899 when he was engaged as a civil engineer for the Great Northern Elevator Company at Buffalo, New York, and the Great Northern Railroad at St. Paul, have been received through the courtesy of the St. Paul Public Library. This engineering record is one of the first of its kind to be added to the society's collections.

The diaries kept during the First World War by a Minneapolis high school boy, Harold W. Clark, are among some family papers presented by Mr. L. S. Clark of Minneapolis. Some literary notebooks kept by Mrs. Mary S. Clark in the late nineteenth century also are included.

An interesting description of the "Red River Cart Trail through Becker County," written and illustrated with color sketches by Guy E. Teague, has been presented by Mr. Teague through the courtesy of Mr. Walter D. Bird, president of the Becker County Historical Society at Detroit Lakes.

Mr. Val E. Kasparek of Little Falls, president of the Morrison County Historical Society, has written and presented a "History of the Building of Camp Ripley." It includes a useful list of the men who constructed the camp.

A short history of the Pioneer Club of Northfield has been presented by Mrs. Frederic W. Johnson of Northfield. The organization is a literary club and is one of the oldest women's clubs in the state.

A number of interesting autographs are included in a folder of papers of the late Mrs. Frank B. Kellogg, presented by her sister, Mrs. F. J. Ottis of St. Paul. With the gift are some unusual photographs accumulated by Frank B. Kellogg when he was serving as a senator, as secretary of state, as ambassador to England, and as judge of the Permanent Court of International Justice.

A filing box of addresses delivered before the Inglenook Reading Club of St. Paul has been presented by Mrs. Charles J. Resler of St. Paul, through the courtesy of the St. Paul Public Library. They deal for the most part with current events in the period from 1924 to 1938.

A history of Red Wing, consisting of 249 typewritten pages, is the gift of Mr. Samuel T. Irvine of that city. It contains a chronology of the city's history to 1942 prepared "upon request of Aldermen M. L. Warren and W. A. Jones."

Mrs. Cyrus W. Wells of Minneapolis has presented a copy of a bill introduced in the Senate by Senator Frank B. Kellogg of Minnesota on June 6, 1921, providing for the establishment of the Yorktown National Military Park on the site of the siege of Yorktown. Mrs. Wells, who served as state regent of the Minnesota Daughters of the American Revolution from 1910 to 1912, was present when the bill was introduced.

Two Continental currency notes, one for five dollars issued in 1775 and the other for two-thirds of a dollar dating from 1776, have been presented by Mrs. N. P. Langford of St. Paul. A collection of fourteen medals awarded in amateur rowing contests is the gift of Dr. John M. Armstrong of St. Paul.

Six silver spoons dating from about 1830 have been presented by Mrs. T. D. Eachus of White Bear Lake, through the courtesy of Mrs. M. C. McMillan of Stillwater.

Recent additions to the society's toy collection include two Igorot dolls presented by Miss Pearl Clark of Camp Meeker, California, and a toy bank given by Dr. J. C. Ferguson of St. Paul.

A large cabinet Victrola dating from about 1917 has been presented by Mrs. Robert Rosenthal of St. Paul. Accompanying her gift are forty-nine records typical of the classical taste of the First World War era and recorded by the foremost artists of the period.

Some sixty photographs and diplomas, many of which hung in the Washington office of Justice Pierce Butler while he was serving as associate justice of the United States Supreme Court from 1923 to 1940, have been presented by his son, Mr. Pierce Butler of St. Paul. One of the earlier pictures in the collection shows the future justice in the office of county attorney of Ramsey County, a post that he held from 1893 to 1897. There are autographed photographs of several justices who served on the supreme bench with Butler, including Charles E. Hughes, William Howard Taft, J. C. McReynolds, George Sutherland, and Willis Van Devanter. Butler's commission, dated December 21, 1922, and signed by President Harding, also is included in the collection.

American Genealogical Research, Its Beginning and Growth by Alexander J. Wall (New York, 1942. 10 p.) is a pamphlet of considerable interest to genealogists. A check of the books, periodicals, and indexes that are mentioned in it shows how well the Minnesota Historical Society has kept abreast of publications in the field of genealogy. Every title listed may be found in the society's library. Included is the *American Genealogical Index*. The society has recently received volumes 5 and 6 of this work, in which surnames from Brown to Clagg are indexed.

Reminiscences of farm life in Goodhue County are included in the *Crandall Genealogy and Chart* by Rosann R. Crandall (48 p.). Other recently acquired genealogies that mention Minnesota families are: Lue A. Kress, *A Genealogy of the Blakey Family* (Caldwell, Idaho, 1942. 96 p.); Joseph F. Dryer, *Ancestry of Rufus K. Dryer* (Rochester, New York, 1942. 280 p.); James S. Elston, *The Elston Family in America* (Rutland, Vermont, 1942. 632 p.); George H. Harrington, *Manuscript of Harrington Family Genealogical Gazetteer* (Austin, Texas, 1941. 887 p.); Marmaduke J. Stafford, *A Genealogy of the Descendants of Elijah Mendenhall* (Richmond, Indiana, 1939. 88 p.); Moffett and Allied Families (New York, 1932. 197 p.); J. Otis Swift, *The Pursuit of Happiness* (Hibbing, Minnesota, 1942. 39 p.); Lillian H. Holch, *Sizer Genealogy* (Brooklyn, New York, 1941. 489 p.); T. Woods Sterrett, *The Sterrett Genealogy* (New Haven, Connecticut, 1930. 284 p.);

and Oscar M. Sullivan, *Jeremiah Sullivan of Summit County, Ohio, His Descendants and Collateral Lines* (St. Paul, 1942. 23 p.).

Among other genealogies received during the first quarter of 1943 are: Devere Allen, *Some Prudence Island Allens* (Wilton, Connecticut, 1942. 81 p.); Alice E. Berry, *The Bushes and the Berrys* (Los Angeles, 1941. 183 p.); Orville Corson, *Three Hundred Years with the Corson Families in America* (Burlington, Vermont, 1939. 2 vols.); William S. Covington, *The Covingtons* (Omaha, 1941. 201 p.); Frederick B. Shaw, *History of the Dickinson Family* (Arlington, Virginia, 1942. 19 p.); William L. Hart, *Hart Family History* (Alliance, Ohio, 1942. 198 p.); Elizabeth M. Venable, *William Adam Hocker, A Biography with Some Account of His Ancestry* (Jacksonville, Florida, 1941. 107 p.); Emma H. Riggs, *Our Pioneer Ancestors* (Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1941. 207 p.); Albert R. Lamb, *Thomas Lambe of Roxbury and Some of His Descendants* (Washington, D. C., 1932. 82 p.); Elizabeth Black, *McCandlish-Black Family History* (Worthington, Ohio, 1935. 160 p.); *Lumber River Scots and Their Descendants, the McLeans, the Torreyes, the Purcells, the McIntyres, the Gilchrists* (Richmond, Virginia, 1942. 839 p.); Grace M. Marshall, *Ancestry Charts of Rufus Marshall and Suzanna George* (Rutherford, New Jersey, 1940. 11 p.); Virginia R. F. Pochmann, *Some Early Texas Families* (Madison, Wisconsin, 1942. 40 p.); Thomas J. Scott, *Our Clan, a Biological and Genealogical Account of the Family of Reverend Andrew Scott* (Coytesville, New Jersey, 1920. 124 p.); Frederick B. Shaw, *History of the Shaw Family* (Arlington, Virginia, 1942. 19 p.); Marmaduke J. Stafford, *A Genealogy of the Descendants of Samuel and Eli Stafford* (Richmond, Indiana, 1941. 101 p.); Iva Scheffel, *Genealogy of the Stansbury Family* (Mountain View, California, 1942. 119 p.); E. T. Sutherlin, *A Short Genealogy of the Sutherland Family in America* (1941. 24 p.); Clarence V. Tiers, *Branches from the Matthew Pratt-Arundius Tiers Family Tree, 1734-1942* (Daytona Beach, Florida, 1942. 8 p.), and *Some Branches from the Tiers' Family Tree* (Oakmont, Pennsylvania, 1941. 10 p.); Katharine M. Waterman, *Nicholas Utter of Westerly, Rhode Island, and a Few of His Descendants* (Westerly, 1941. 176 p.); and James I. Wyer, *Descendants of Edward Wyer* (Newark, New Jersey, 1942. Chart).

Source material pertaining to the Revolutionary War is contained in several books recently received by the society. These include the *Day Book of Peter Anspach, Paymaster to the Quartermaster General's De-*

partment September 10, 1781 to May 17, 1782 (Washington, 1941. 122 p.) and three publications of special South Carolina interest—two books of *Stub Entries to Indents Issued in Payment of Claims Against South Carolina Growing Out of the Revolution* (Columbia, South Carolina, 1934, 1939. 264 p., 120 p.), and volume 2 of *Accounts Audited of Revolutionary Claims Against South Carolina* (Columbia, 1938. 181 p.). Tombstone and other records are printed in William A. Goodwin's *Record of Bruton Parish Church* (Richmond, Virginia, 1941. 205 p.); and in Mary R. Root's *History of the Town of York, Livingston County, New York* (Caledonia, New York, 1940. 205 p.). A transcription, by Mrs. Sterling B. Jordan and Mrs. Frank W. Seth, of original records of a Presbyterian church at Poundridge, New York, is issued under the title, *Marriages Performed by Rev. William Patterson, 1837-1886* (White Plains, New York, 1939. 46 p.). *Richmond County Records, 1704-1724* by Beverley Fleet (Richmond, Virginia, 1943. 111 p.) and *York County Source Book* by Garland E. Hopkins (Winchester, Virginia, 1942. 32 p.) also contain copies of records.

Local histories of interest to genealogists include: Jesse S. Birch, *History of Benton County and Historic Oxford* (Oxford, Indiana, 1942. 386 p.); Orval W. Baylor, *Early Times in Washington County, Kentucky* (Cynthiana, Kentucky, 1942. 154 p.); Frank H. Stewart, *Gloucester County under the Proprietors* (Woodbury, New Jersey, 1942. 46 p.); Eugene L. Armbruster, *Brooklyn's Eastern District* (Brooklyn, New York, 1942. 400 p.); Claude A. Nichols, *Sullivan in History, Interesting People and Events Contributing to the Development of the Township of Sullivan, Madison County, New York* (Chittenango, New York, 1939. 95 p.); James Alexander, *Early Charlottesville, Recollections 1828-1874* (Charlottesville, Virginia, 1942. 128 p.); Fillmore Norfleet, *Saint-Mémin in Virginia; Portraits and Biographies* (Richmond, Virginia, 1942. 235 p.); and Virginia Writers' Program, *Roanoke, Story of County and City* (Roanoke, 1942. 390 p.). L. M. F.

News and Comment

"HISTORY is the least mysterious and least cloistered branch of learning. It has no secret techniques of theory or apparatus; it has no special vocabulary. It is the one discipline whose most advanced findings are set forth in everyday speech and purport to be addressed to the multitude. This unpretentiousness requires the professionals to be better historians. It encourages them to sound reasoning and to clear expression." Thus writes John W. Caughey of the University of California in an essay on "The Local Historian: His Occupational Hazards and Compensations," appearing in the *Pacific Historical Review* for March. The very unpretentiousness of historical writing and research, writes Professor Caughey, has led many gifted individuals to enter the field, but it also has encouraged those who are practically without training to "volunteer to prescribe how local history shall be written." For the professional historian, local history has a "darker side" in that its appeal and its market, as well as its geographical area, are limited. On the other hand, local history appeals to trained historians because it is rich in subjects still unexplored, in variety, in dramatic qualities, and in its influence on "its bigger and more respectable cousins, national and global history."

The importance of preventing "Wartime Loss of Valuable Objects and Records through Misguided Salvage Efforts" is emphasized by Ned J. Burns, chief of the museum division of the National Park Service, in a paper published in the *Museum News* for February 15. At a time when "everyone is zealously delivering to the junk collectors tons of discarded attic hoards," Mr. Burns warns that "extra vigilance should be exercised to rescue the occasional objects of real value and significance which are worthy of permanent preservation as a record of our history and culture." The writer stresses the need for rescuing from the salvage heap objects that are irreplaceable, such as unique historical documents and manuscripts, items that have greater value "in portraying the story of our history" than they could possibly have for their metal content, and files of scientific journals that probably will be needed "for replacing losses in European libraries after the war." Military victory will be "hollow and meaningless if there has occurred meanwhile an irretrievable loss of the very things we have started out to preserve," Mr. Burns concludes.

As a supplement to its *Bulletin* for February, the Business Historical Society has published an enlightening discussion of *An Experiment in the Retention and Preservation of Corporate Records* by Carl H. McKenzie, secretary-treasurer of the Pennsylvania Telephone Corporation. According to a note by the editor, "the *Bulletin* aims to serve both business and the historian" in presenting the article. The editor points out that "business executives will value the author's analysis of the procedure in selecting records to be retained and in setting up an efficient system of storage and arrangement for use." At the same time historians will welcome Mr. McKenzie's suggestions, for they "are coming more and more to see the need of preserving the original records of business" because "they cannot adequately study business without studying it from the records of business itself."

Nearly fifty items relating specifically to Minnesota are listed under the name of the state in a bibliography of *Writings on American History, 1937 and 1938*, compiled by Grace G. Griffin, Dorothy M. Louraine, and Margaret K. Patterson, and published as volume 2 of the American Historical Association's *Annual Report* for 1937 (Washington, 1942. 869 p.). A number of books and articles by members of the staff of the Minnesota Historical Society are listed in the volume, and there are references also to articles about the society's activities. Another recently published bibliography which includes a Minnesota section is the second edition of Henry Putney Beers's *Bibliographies in American History: Guide to Materials for Research* (New York, 1942). The compiler of this work seems to have overlooked some important Minnesota items, and his inclusion of others is a bit difficult to justify.

A brief list of references on Minnesota history and fiction appears in a recent handbook of *American Authors and Books, 1640-1940* by W. J. Burke and Will D. Howe (New York, 1943. 858 p.). Unfortunately the more valuable works on the state published shortly before 1940 have been omitted, and early narratives of exploration and travel are entirely disregarded. There is a brief and somewhat outdated note on the Minnesota Historical Society; accounts of several Minnesota newspapers are presented; and a few Minnesota authors are represented.

The recent concern over the status of history in the nation's schools and colleges is the point of departure for a discussion of "History in the

School Curriculum," which has been contributed by Professor Edgar B. Wesley of the University of Minnesota to the "Teacher's Section" of the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review* for March. Professor Wesley asserts that "The statement that history has lost ground must be interpreted carefully." He contends that "the number of students studying American history has steadily increased, and the total attention to historical elements has certainly increased"; nevertheless, he admits that "history as a subject has lost in the number of courses and in the percentage of students who study it." One factor that he believes helps to explain the situation is the "emergence of the social studies as a field," for history as a separate entity often is absorbed in this more general field of study. Professor Wesley discusses the causes for the present status of history teaching, and suggests certain remedies for the situation.

That Minnesota was one of five public land states which "held and managed their lands for highly satisfactory prices" is revealed by Earle D. Ross in his recent study of *Democracy's College: The Land-grant Movement in the Formative Stage* (Ames, Iowa, 1942. 267 p.). Many of the author's examples are drawn from the experience of the University of Minnesota, particularly its college of agriculture. Dr. William W. Folwell's contributions are stressed, and his insistence upon high standards for the land-grant colleges is noted.

Two doctoral dissertations recently submitted at Columbia University will be useful to students of the co-operative movement in Minnesota and the Northwest. In the more general of the two studies, Lennart G. Bryngelsson presents *A Survey of Consumers' Cooperatives in the United States* (1941. 447 p.). Included is concise information about many Minnesota co-operatives, such as the Land O'Lakes Creameries, the Freeborn County Cooperative Oil Company of Albert Lea, the Farmers' Union Central Exchange of St. Paul, the Cloquet Cooperative Society, the Range Cooperative Federation of Virginia, and the Midland Cooperative Wholesale of Minneapolis. The latter, which was established in 1926, is described as the "oldest cooperative oil wholesale in the United States." The second thesis, by Howard H. Turner, deals with *Case Studies of Consumers' Cooperatives* organized by Finnish groups in the United States (1941. 330 p.). More than a third of the study is devoted to co-operatives in the Lake Superior region, and many of the examples cited are drawn from Minnesota's Finnish communities, such as Ely and Cloquet.

The progress of pharmaceutical education in the chief universities and colleges of the Northwest during the past half century is surveyed in a series of articles appearing in the February number of the *North Western Druggist*. Incidentally, the present issue marks the completion of fifty years of publication by this professional periodical. Among articles of special Minnesota interest in the issue is a review of "Fifty Years with Minnesota's College of Pharmacy" by Dean C. H. Rogers, and an evaluation of the services of the *North Western Druggist* by Dean Emeritus Frederick J. Wulling of the same college. The growth and services of colleges of pharmacy in Iowa, Wisconsin, North Dakota, and other states also are reviewed.

To supplement a history of the Chicago, Milwaukee, and St. Paul Railroad published in 1892, Mr. H. H. Field, special counsel of the present railway company, has published a *History of Milwaukee Railroad, 1892-1940* (263 p.). It consists for the most part of legal and financial data assembled by examining the records of corporations absorbed by the railroad. Each road taken over by the Milwaukee is treated in a separate section, and a list of abandoned lines is given in one appendix. Although the author fails to give a picture of the varied activities in which a great western railroad participated, his book should prove useful to the student who is searching for one type of detailed information. "The Hiawatha — Speed Queen of the Milwaukee" is the title of a chapter in a recent volume on *Railroading from the Head End* by S. Kip Farrington, Jr. (1943. 296 p.), and a photograph of this crack train crossing the Mississippi serves as an end paper decoration for the book.

A general survey of "Developments on the Great Lakes, 1815-1943" is contributed by Ivan H. Walton to the winter number of the *Michigan History Magazine*. Emphasis throughout the narrative is placed upon Lakes Huron and Michigan and the locks at Sault Ste. Marie. Only occasional references to Lake Superior are included. Among the more useful sections are those dealing with the St. Lawrence waterway and the various ship canals that connect the lakes with other water courses, and with lighthouses and other aids to navigation.

Minnesota's northern boundary figures prominently in a chapter on "Boundary-making between the United States and Canada," appearing in a volume entitled *International Boundaries: A Study of Boundary Functions and Problems* by S. Wittemore Boggs (New York, 1940. 272

p.). Of special interest is a section on the "Northwesternmost Point of the Lake of the Woods" with a series of detailed maps showing the steps by which this boundary point was established. Another useful map in the volume indicates the "Waterways Problems Handled by the International Joint Commission."

A popular edition of Professor Einar Haugen's *Voyages to Vinland* has been issued by Alfred A. Knopf (New York, 1942). The original limited edition (see *ante*, 23:378) was published in 1941 by the Holiday Press of Chicago and sold at \$15.00; the later edition is priced at \$3.50. It has been somewhat revised and a bibliographical chapter has been added.

The evidence for and against the Paul Bunyan legends as authentic tales of the lumberjacks' frontier is re-examined by George L. Peterson in the *Minneapolis Sunday Tribune* for March 21, where he devotes his column, "Northwest Passage," to the hero of the north woods. In questioning the antiquity of the tales, Mr. Peterson refers to an article by Carleton C. Ames in the issue of this magazine for March, 1940. Mr. W. B. Laughead, who was responsible for the early publication of the myths in a booklet issued by the Red River Lumber Company, takes up the discussion in a letter to the editor published in the *Tribune* for April 11. It will be recalled that after the publication of Mr. Ames's article, he contributed a similar communication to *Minnesota History* (see *ante*, 21:177).

Two racial studies of unusual interest appear in the March number of the *Wisconsin Magazine of History*. In the first, Lee W. Metzner tells of "The Belgians in the North Country," giving special attention to the settlements near Green Bay, and especially that at Casco. Mrs. Sadie R. Price, the author of the second article, describes "The Welsh of Waukesha County," their settlements and social customs. "How land titles in the vicinity of Green Bay and Prairie du Chien were authenticated by the United States government" is explained by Frederick N. Trowbridge in an article published in the same issue under the title "Confirming Land Titles in Early Wisconsin."

Of special Minnesota interest are two articles in the sixth series of *La Crosse County Historical Sketches* issued by the La Crosse County Historical Society (1942. 95 p.)—Louis Larson's recollections of "Pio-

neering in Wisconsin and Minnesota," and H. J. Hirshheimer's account of "Bridging the Mississippi at La Crosse and Winona." Mr. Larson's family emigrated from Norway in 1860 and settled on a hilly farm near La Crosse. The fact that the author spent his boyhood there enables him to present a vivid picture of a Norwegian community in a region adjacent to the Minnesota boundary. The scene later shifts to western Minnesota, for after attending a business school, Mr. Larson obtained a position with the land department of the Chicago and Northwestern Railroad, which sent him to its western office in Marshall. There, he records, land "sales were closed and all collections were made." Many Norwegians settled on the railroad's lands, and in the 1880's Belgian, Irish, French, and Polish settlers were encouraged by Archbishop Ireland to establish colonies near Marshall. Until land sales began to decline in 1890, Mr. Larson remained in the Marshall office. Mr. Hirshheimer contributes a chapter to the history of interstate railroad transportation, for his narrative deals with the years from 1870 to 1876, which "witnessed a most interesting struggle on the part of the Chicago, Milwaukee and St. Paul Railroad to cross the Mississippi river at La Crosse and to unite with its line building south from St. Paul" on the river's west bank. The "winter bridges" and "car ferries" that were used before the railroad completed its bridge at La Crosse are described in some detail. Mention should be made also of Mrs. Arthur E. Hebbard's article in the same issue dealing with "Interior Decoration and Furnishing, 1870-1900," for it is based upon a series of unusual photographs of La Crosse interiors of the 1880's and 1890's. Several of the pictures are reproduced with the article.

The centennial of the founding of the *Grant County Herald* at Lancaster, Wisconsin, which was owned and edited by James M. Goodhue before he went to St. Paul in 1849 to establish the *Minnesota Pioneer*, is the occasion for the publication of an article about the earlier paper in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for March 14. The first issue of the *Herald*, which is said to be the "oldest newspaper in Wisconsin," appeared on March 18, 1843; two years later Goodhue became its owner and editor. The memory of this pioneer journalist in two Middle Western states has been honored by the United States Maritime Commission, which has named one of the newly completed Liberty Ships for him. The "James M. Goodhue" was launched at Long Beach, California, on March 15.

Transcripts of the "Proceedings of the County Board of Supervisors" of Iowa County, Wisconsin, from November 15, 1830, to November 22, 1849, comprise two mimeographed volumes of the *Wisconsin Territorial Papers: County Series* published by the Wisconsin Historical Records Survey (Madison, 1942. 275, 281 p.). The entries afford much information about the early frontier period of Wisconsin history, and the records of tax levies, orders for road viewing, appropriations, election returns, and the like reflect the progress of one frontier county. The records are said to have been transcribed in Iowa County, but the user would like to know more specifically where the original documents are to be found. There is no index. W.M.B.

The experiences of a home missionary who went to Green Bay in 1837 and two years later accepted a call from a Presbyterian church at Milwaukee are set forth by Lawrence E. Murphy in a volume entitled *Religion and Education on the Frontier: A Life of Stephen Peet* (Dubuque, Iowa, n.d. 137 p.). Much of the material in this interesting contribution to western religious and cultural history is drawn from the archives of the American Home Missionary Society in Chicago, where many of Peet's letters are preserved.

In a sketch of Carl Wimar, appearing in the January number of the *Missouri Historical Review*, mention is made of the St. Louis artist's trip to the upper Mississippi in 1849. Wimar traveled with Leon Pomarede, who was assembling material for his panorama of the upper Mississippi Valley. Many of the sketches later used by Pomarede were made by Wimar. Upon returning to St. Louis, Wimar learned that he had inherited a small fortune, and this enabled him to go to Europe to study. Eventually he became widely known for his paintings of Missouri River scenes and Indians.

Among the substantial contributions made by the WPA in Minnesota's neighboring states is a volume of *South Dakota Place Names*, compiled by workers of the Writers' Program and published by the offset process by the University of South Dakota (Vermillion, 1941. 669 p.). A comparatively simple arrangement has been followed, with names arranged in alphabetical order under such headings as counties, cities, post offices, ghost towns, lakes, water courses, "high places," "low places," mines, parks and forests, "historic places," and "travel routes."

A volume entitled *Les Canadiens français et leurs voisins du sud*, prepared under the direction of Gustave Lanctot of the Public Archives of Canada, has been published under the auspices of the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace as one of a series of studies on the *Relations of Canada and the United States* (Montreal, 1941). It is noteworthy that this contribution to the series should appear in French. Dr. Lanctot points out in his introduction that it follows the relations in two North American countries — New France and the English colonies, later eastern Canada and the United States — of two peoples, two mentalities, two religions, two systems, both evolving in the same economic milieu and both contrasting with native populations of the same cultural level. Of particular interest for the history of the Northwest is a chapter by Benoit Brouillette on French-Canadian contributions to the fur trade, exploration, and missionary activity in the period from 1763 to 1846 and in the region extending from Hudson Bay and the Mississippi and Missouri rivers to the Pacific Ocean. Among names familiar to Minnesotans appearing in these pages are Renville, Perrault, Faribault, Adhémar, Rollette, Chouteau, and Cadotte. The work of Provencher and other churchmen connected with the Red River mission is stressed. The author concludes that the French-Canadians as pioneers, traders, explorers, and missionaries prepared the way for civilization in America. S.D.

An unfamiliar chapter in the history of the Selkirk colony is presented by John Perry Pritchett and F. J. Wilson in the *Canadian Historical Review* for March. Under the title "A Winter at Hudson Bay, 1811-12," the writers recount the adventures of Miles Macdonnell, governor of the projected colony on the Red River, and the settlers who arrived at York Factory in the autumn of 1811. "Since it was too late in the season to proceed to Red River, that winter must be spent in comparative inactivity at the Bay," the authors record, and while there Macdonnell had the sole "responsibility for the welfare of the settlers and servants through the long northern winter that lay ahead." The prospects for a season spent in such a spot under unfavorable circumstances, write the authors, were sufficiently ominous "to daunt the most courageous heart." Their record of the unhappy events that served as a prelude to the founding of the Selkirk colony is based upon manuscript sources in the Public Archives of Canada. The present narrative does much to explain the later failures of the Red River settlers.

GENERAL MINNESOTA ITEMS

A "Diaphanous" consisting of "thirty-six oil paintings by one John Stevens, dealing with the Minnesota massacre of 1862, as well as current events (as of 1870), prominent people, and scenic wonders" is described in the *New Yorker* for March 6. The pictures, which "are painted on a single strip of canvas arranged so that it can be unreeled in a clumsy-looking wooden frame behind which a light is placed," are among the prized possessions of a New York dealer, Mr. Howard F. Porter. A list of titles of some of the pictures makes it clear that many of them are similar to the views included in a panorama of the Sioux War, also by John Stevens, which is owned by the Minnesota Historical Society. Stevens lived and worked at Rochester in the 1860's, and it was through the interest and foresight of the late Burt W. Eaton of the Minnesota city that the society acquired the panorama. Mr. Porter purchased his version from descendants of the artist residing at Binghamton, New York. Like many other panorama painters, Stevens seems to have made more than one copy of his primitive motion picture or "newsreel," as the *New Yorker* chooses to call it. In view of the fact that very few original panoramas have survived to the present, it is surprising that two copies of Stevens' picture should still exist. It is to be hoped that Mr. Porter's copy will eventually be acquired by a Minnesota museum.

The site of the battle on October 5, 1898, between United States troops and a group of Leech Lake Chippewa has been acquired by the federal government and will be held in trust for the Minnesota Chippewa, according to the *Minnesota Chippewa Bulletin* for December 26, 1942. The "preservation of the site as a fitting commemoration of the battle known as 'The Last Indian Uprising in the United States' is thus assured." The battleground, which is located on Sugar Point on the shores of Leech Lake, is said to have "wonderful prospects for historical development." The recent arrangement for the preservation of the site lends special interest to Miss Wold's recollections of the uprising of 1898 appearing elsewhere in this issue of *Minnesota History*.

Excavations and archaeological discoveries made on the "A. H. Andersen Site," a farm in Anoka County, are discussed by George Flaskerd in the *Minnesota Archaeologist* for January. "For some time after the site was brought under cultivation," he writes, "it must have been an archaeological paradise as members of the Andersen family say that they

found large numbers of artifacts, both large and small, as well as numerous large fragments of pottery many of which were almost complete vessels." Mr. Flaskerd has records of 660 items, and he presents drawings as well as descriptions of many of the types represented.

Chapter 462 of the *Minnesota Laws* of 1943 authorizes county boards to "acquire and maintain tracts of land within their counties which are designated as having historical or archeological significance and whose acquisition and maintenance are approved" by the Minnesota Historic Sites and Markers Commission. It will be recalled that the commission was established under an act passed by the Minnesota legislature in 1941 (see *ante*, 22:209). Another bill passed during the recent session, Chapter 468, provides that county boards may appropriate funds for the care and maintenance of abandoned or neglected cemeteries.

The Twin Cities present "an accurate sample of local developments and conditions all over the country" so far as the visual arts are concerned, writes Martha Davidson in a "Regional Review: Minneapolis-St. Paul 1943," appearing in the *Art News* for January. She believes that local developments are typical of an era that she designates as the "period of government sponsorship," a period during which Minnesota artists, working under WPA auspices, found themes and inspiration in their home state. The writer illustrates her text with well-chosen examples of the work of Minnesotans in the fields of painting, sculpture, and architecture.

The January issue of *Minnesota Medicine* is a twenty-fifth anniversary number containing several articles on the more recent history of medicine in the state. Of these the most comprehensive is Dr. E. L. Touhy's survey of the "Progress in Internal Medicine in Minnesota," for the author includes sketches of "medical personalities," such as Dr. Frank F. Westbrook and Dr. Louis B. Wilson, remarks on medical education, and notes on medical journals and publications. A review, by Dr. Melvin S. Henderson, of "Progress in Orthopedic Surgery" surveys a field in which such diverse personalities as Dr. Arthur J. Gillette, William H. Eustis, Michael J. Dowling, and Sister Elizabeth Kenny figure prominently. Some interesting reminiscences are contributed by Dr. E. Sydney Boleyn, who was appointed physician for the Minnesota State Prison at Stillwater in 1894, the first medical man to devote all his time to the welfare of the

prisoners. "Group Hospitalization," which had its origin in Minnesota in 1933, when seven St. Paul hospitals organized the Minnesota Hospital Service Association, is the subject of an article by Arthur M. Calvin. A number of articles describe progress in specific branches of medicine in the past quarter century, without special application to Minnesota. Dr. John M. Armstrong's article on "The Asiatic Cholera in Saint Paul" (see *ante*, p. 79) is continued in the January number, and the concluding installment appears in the February issue. Beginning in February and continuing in the March number is a "History of Medicine in Dodge County" by James Eckman and Dr. Charles E. Bigelow.

An interesting sidelight on Henry H. Sibley, found in a letter of January 2, 1842, in the Burton Historical Collection at Detroit, is exploited by William J. McNally in his column, "More or Less Personal," in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for January 2. The writer of the letter was Miss Emily Mason of Detroit, and she apparently asked Sibley to deliver the communication to her father, who was in the East. She explains that Sibley, "who lives at St. Peter's," has "left his Indian home to look out after a wife." Miss Mason then goes on to explain that Sibley "is a fine fellow. You know in what esteem his family are held here and he is considered the flower of the flock." Less than two years after this letter was written Sibley married Sarah Jane Steele of Baltimore.

Community and family history is interwoven in a little booklet on *The Hunt Family*, in which experiences centering largely about Sterling in Blue Earth County are recorded by Frances Marietta Hunt (34 p.). The narrative opens with an account of the New England backgrounds of the writer's father, Nehemiah Hunt. Then follow records of schooling and marriage in Illinois, of a journey by wagon to Minnesota in the autumn of 1863, and of frontier life at Sterling. Many of the incidents reported relate to the rural school and to the newly established Carleton College at Northfield, where the youthful Hunts went to complete their educations. There are stories also of family gatherings and holiday celebrations. Since "there were no evergreens in Sterling," Miss Hunt relates, on one Christmas "we took a plum tree, or perhaps a cherry tree, and with green tissue paper, fringed with the scissors, we wound every single limb and twig till we really had a green Christmas tree."

With sketches of "Judson L. Wicks, the 'Compleat' Conservationist of Waltonism," by Ken Morrison, and of "Mrs. H. C. Bowing, Women's

Clubs Conservationist Emeritus," by Maude C. Schilplin, the *Conservation Volunteer* continues in its January and March issues its series dealing with "Personalities in Conservation." Mr. Morrison also contributes to the March number a brief "Report on Nerstrand Woods," in which readers are informed that the acquisition by the state of this interesting historical and natural area is now "nearly completed."

WAR HISTORY ACTIVITIES

A series of remarkable *Newsmaps*, presenting both maps and photographs of areas of conflict in all parts of the world, is now being received by the Minnesota War History Committee from the special service division of the United States war department. The maps, with explanatory notes and illustrative material, are printed on sheets measuring 35 by 37 inches. Useful pictorial material is presented on the reverse side; the issue for March 22, for example, illustrates the uniforms and insignia used by the United Nations.

A "Summary of Press Releases," which serves as a chronological index to important executive and administrative war measures, is being issued in mimeographed form by the United States Office of War Information. It is received currently by the Minnesota War History Committee.

To preserve the "records of the State Council of Defense and, insofar as possible, an account of the war activities of the entire State of Illinois," a Division of War Records and Research was established in Illinois in 1941. Mr. Stanley Erikson is its historian. Reports on the activities of both the state and local councils of defense in Illinois have been issued recently in mimeographed form.

The Ohio War History Commission publishes a mimeographed monthly entitled *Communiqué*, in which news items about its activities and collections are presented. Dr. William D. Overman, who served until recently as executive secretary of the commission, has accepted a position as historian and archivist for the Firestone Tire and Rubber Company at Akron. His successor is Professor Francis P. Weisenburger of the department of history in Ohio State University.

A column on "The State at War," copy for which is prepared by the Pennsylvania Historical Commission, is published currently in the *Capi-*

tol News of Harrisburg. The commission also issues special press releases, and it has published in mimeographed form a useful *War History Manual*, containing suggestions for collecting, filing, and indexing material.

Since many Minnesota inductees are assigned to Camp McCoy, a huge army training area near Sparta, Wisconsin, numerous items relating to Minnesotans are to be found in the *Real McCoy*, a weekly newspaper issued by the camp's military personnel. A file is in the collection of the Minnesota War History Committee.

Late in 1942 the Minnesota Editorial Association made a study of the effect of the war on Minnesota newspapers. Among the subjects on which information was compiled are manpower, numbers of employees, circulation, space devoted to war news, wartime activities of publishers and newspaper staffs, changes in format, local advertising sources, free display advertising, rates and volume of advertising, and advertising plans. The results of the survey have been incorporated in a mimeographed report to members of the association. A copy has been filed with the War History Committee.

A mimeographed *Report on Minnesota Aviation* issued by the Civil Aeronautics Administration (1942. 22 p.) makes available a useful survey of the state's aviation facilities. It includes, for example, a list of twenty points in Minnesota where civilian pilot training operations are now in progress. Estimates of the numbers of pilots and aircraft in the state and descriptions of airports and landing fields also are presented.

Pamphlets, leaflets, and other materials used by the WPA in war information centers of libraries throughout Minnesota have been turned over to the War History Committee by the library division of the state department of education. Included are handbooks for the instruction of auxiliary police, fire watchers, air-raid wardens, and first-aid workers; manuals on motors, electricity, and Diesel engines; and items relating to home life, morale in wartime, agriculture, and various modes of warfare.

The General Alumni Association of the University of Minnesota is compiling a service record of Minnesota alumni engaged in the Second World War, according to an announcement in the *Minnesota Alumni Weekly* for February 27. A form with spaces for name, class, service branch, rank, service address, and home address of individuals in the service accompanies the announcement.

New chairmen have been appointed for the war history committees of four Minnesota counties. In Kandiyohi County, Mr. Irvin Hanson replaces Mr. Henry Southworth; in Le Sueur County, the Reverend John H. Sellie succeeds Mrs. Robert K. Thorsen; in Otter Tail, Mrs. C. M. Kelehan has been named to the position held formerly by Mr. E. T. Barnard; and in Pope, Miss Olive Barsness succeeds Mr. Charles Glantz.

Mrs. Carrie A. Bachtle, chairman of the Faribault County War History Committee, reports that a special field of activity has been assigned to each of its thirteen members. Included are publicity, war bonds, vital statistics, aviation, men in the service, letters from servicemen, the county fair, women's organizations, the Boy Scouts, schools in wartime, the Red Cross, and the press. The committee has enjoyed the co-operation of many local organizations, including the Victory Aides, who are said to number 315 in Faribault County. Among the records assembled by the committee are lists of the names of members of the local rationing boards, the selective service board, the Corn Belt Loan Association, and other county war agencies.

A directory of five hundred men from Grant County who were serving in the nation's armed forces before the end of February has been prepared by the Grant County War History Committee, according to Mrs. George Hanson, its chairman. The list was compiled by committee members residing in various parts of the county, including the villages of Ashby, Barrett, Herman, Hoffman, Norcross, and Wendell.

A questionnaire asking for reports on wartime activities of clubs and organizations appears in the *News Letter* of the Minneapolis Defense Council for February 17. It provides a convenient form for reports on group participation in bond and stamp sales, Red Cross activities, salvage collection, and in basic training courses in child care, first aid, home nursing, nutrition, and the like.

Among the more active war history committees in the state is that of Olmsted County, of which Mr. S. L. Lyksett is chairman. According to a recent report on its activities, each member has been asked to collect information about a specific phase of local war activity, such as the operation of selective service in the county, the work of the fire and air raid wardens, salvage of war materials, the Red Cross, and the victory book drives. The committee also gathers material on church activities, and it collects photographs and biographies of local men in the service.

In the latter work, the committee is assisted by the Victory Aides, especially in rural areas. It has now assembled several hundred photographs, selections from which are displayed from time to time in store windows in Rochester. Items relating to the services of Olmsted County men are clipped from newspapers, and a complete file of clippings is deposited with the Olmsted County Historical Society for permanent preservation. The members of the committee, in addition to Mr. Lyksett, are Mr. E. H. Schlitgus, Mrs. Bunn T. Willson, Mrs. G. O. Brandvold, Miss Lydia Petrich, Mr. Julius Opheim, and Mr. Herbert Anderson of Rochester, Mrs. J. E. Brown of Stewartville, Miss Ann Rice of Oronoco, and Mrs. George H. Underbak of Chatfield.

The personnel and objectives of the Ramsey County War History Committee, of which Judge Gustavus Loevinger of St. Paul is chairman, are described in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for January 31.

The Duluth War History Committee is compiling military service records of Duluth residents, according to a statement of Miss Jane Morey, its co-chairman, published in the February issue of *Duluth's Civilian Defense News*. The information will be compiled from draft registrations, Victory Aide surveys, church and school records, and other sources, and it will be kept up to date so far as is possible. The committee also is collecting photographs and letters of soldiers.

LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

Mr. J. P. Bertrand was re-elected president of the Thunder Bay Historical Society at its annual meeting at Fort William on March 31. In his report for the past year Mr. Bertrand outlined a program that called for the establishment of a museum at Port Arthur, the reopening of historic trails and portages, the naming of streets for individuals of importance in regional history, the establishment of historic parks, and co-operation with the schools in exploiting local history. The society's museum at Fort William received 2,351 visitors in 1942, according to the report presented at the same meeting by Carson F. Piper, chairman of the museum committee. He also expressed the society's appreciation of the generosity of the late Peter McKellar, who left to it a trust fund out of which the museum's expenses are met.

A reminiscent talk by M. H. McCart, a Detroit Lakes pioneer of 1883, was a feature of a meeting of the Becker County Historical Society held

at Detroit Lakes early in January. The speaker recalled that he went to Detroit Lakes from Hutchinson "on a train pulled by a wood-burning locomotive." To illustrate his talk he displayed a number of early photographs of Becker County scenes and events.

At the annual meeting of the Blue Earth County Historical Society, which was held at Mankato on January 21, Mr. Horace W. Roberts was re-elected president, Mrs. Mary W. Sugden was named vice-president, and Mr. E. Raymond Hughes was elected secretary and treasurer. A report was presented on improvements made during the past year in the society's museum, including decorating and the purchase of new equipment.

Photographs of pioneers in the collections of the Grant County Historical Society are described by its secretary, W. H. Goetzinger, in the "Historical Society Notes" published in the *Grant County Herald* of Elbow Lake for January 14. Represented in the county album, according to Mr. Goetzinger, are all the villages in the county "except Wendell and all townships except Gorton, Land, Lawrence, Logan, and North Ottawa." Several types of pictures that are needed to complete the collection are suggested. Notes on items reminiscent of the services of Grant County men in the First World War are presented in the issues of the *Herald* for February 18 and March 25.

The surveyor's instrument used by Charles W. Christmas in Minneapolis in the early 1850's was presented to the Hennepin County Historical Society at a meeting held on January 26. The presentation was made by Mayor Marvin L. Kline, who received the instrument from the mayor of Seattle on behalf of Mrs. Anna M. Howe of that city. Other features of the program were a talk on the history of the Fremont Avenue Congregational Church by its pastor, the Reverend John R. Johns, and an account of boyhood experiences in Minneapolis by Mr. Donald C. Bennyhoff. The leading article in the January issue of the society's bulletin, *Hennepin County History*, deals with the "Early History of the University of Minnesota."

That Asa B. Hutchinson deeded to the city of Hutchinson in 1875 a lot "for the purpose of erecting a library and reading room thereon" is revealed in a document recently presented to the McLeod County Historical Society. The deed was found by Mr. D. Albert Adams among his

father's papers, according to an announcement of the gift in the *Hutchinson Leader* for February 12.

Following a visit to the museum of the Olmsted County Historical Society, pupils in the second grade of the Northrop School at Rochester established a museum of their own. Many of the children brought in objects that they considered of interest, and arranged and labeled them for display purposes.

All the officers of the Polk County Historical Society, including Dr. Paul Hagen, president, were re-elected at its annual meeting held in Crookston on January 11. Mr. L. L. Landberg of the Polk County War History Committee spoke on the importance of collecting and preserving the records of the Second World War. An interesting series of exhibits and a significant program of activities on the part of the society's museum were described by its curator, Miss Lulu Keller. In July, 1942, the Daughters of Norway sponsored a loan exhibit of objects brought to the county by Norwegian pioneers and preserved by their descendants; an Indian collection owned by Mrs. H. Holte was displayed in August and September; and a collection of old glass was arranged under the auspices of the local chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution in October. Among more recent displays is one arranged in February and consisting of fans from the collection of Mrs. E. W. Johnson. She described the fans and told of those having special interest in a talk before the local Business and Professional Women's Club in the society's museum on February 15.

The St. Louis County Historical Society has removed its museum from the court house to Tweed Hall on the campus of the Duluth State Teachers College. Three rooms on the third floor of the hall, which is located at 2309 East First Street, Duluth, are now being used by the society for museum purposes, and one room is devoted to the display of its important collection of pictures by Eastman Johnson.

At a meeting of the Waseca County Historical Society held in Waseca on January 4, Mr. Herman Peterson was named to succeed Mr. J. P. Coughlin as president of the organization. Other officers elected at the same meeting include Mr. F. T. Day, vice-president, Mr. H. A. Panzram, secretary, and Mr. Arthur Brisbane, treasurer. Plans were made to publish and distribute a leaflet describing the society and its activities.

The Grand Opera House of Stillwater, which opened in May, 1881, was the subject of a reminiscent talk by H. C. Robertson presented at a meeting of the Washington County Historical Society in Stillwater on February 22. The speaker, who was connected with the management of the theater for many years, recalled that the house attracted to Stillwater many of the nation's leading dramatic figures. A review of his talk appears in the *Stillwater Daily Gazette* for February 23.

LOCAL HISTORY ITEMS

Some of the more recent history of Anoka County is recorded in a booklet on the *History of Bethel Village* compiled by members of a local organization known as the Proper Spirit Club (1942. 24 p.). The narrative reveals that settlement began in Bethel Township as early as 1856, when a group of Quakers established themselves there, but that the village was not incorporated until 1901 after the Great Northern Railroad was built. Thus most of the events described occurred in the present century. Noteworthy are lists of students enrolled in the village school from 1902 to 1904, the names and dates of clubs and lodges that have been active in the community, lists of veterans of the First World War and of residents serving in the present war, and a directory of citizens who have engaged in various professions and business enterprises.

An interview with Mrs. Anna Stahl, a native of Mankato whose family has been in the hotel business there during the entire eighty-five years since her birth, is reported by Jared How in the *Mankato Free Press* for March 3. "She was born in the log building that her father operated as the first hotel in the then raw new settlement at the big bend in the Minnesota river," writes Mr. How, and he notes that the present Stahl House still stands on the site of the original log hotel built by the pioneer Clemens Kron. Mrs. Stahl recalls many details about the running of a hotel in a small frontier community.

A good example of the use of local historical material in advertising is to be found in a series of photographs with explanatory texts published in recent months by Schell's brewery in the Saturday issues of the *New Ulm Daily Journal*. Buildings and scenes are depicted in some of the pictures, as in that showing the structure occupied by a local creamery organized in 1882, in the issue for January 2, and in another depicting a New Ulm

street scene of the 1890's with the Dakota House in the foreground, published on March 13. Several interesting group pictures include the faculty of the Union School in 1886, January 9; the New Ulm Turners in 1896, February 27; and the Union Band of Hanska in 1901, March 27. The value of the latter reproductions is greatly enhanced by the fact that the individuals in the groups are identified. Both the pictures and the sketches that accompany them have been made available by Mr. Fred W. Johnson, president of the Brown County Historical Society.

The history of the Waconia Creamery Association, which recently marked its thirty-fifth anniversary, is reviewed by its first president, Mr. A. O. Anderson, in the *Waconia Patriot* for February 25. He recalls the organization meeting held on February 25, 1908, at which forty-eight members subscribed to the co-operative project, and he describes the various plants that the creamery has acquired and operated. A picture of a building erected in 1909 for its use accompanies the article.

Installments of Mr. Bert Merling's detailed "History of Chisago County" continue to appear in the *Chisago County Press* (see *ante*, 23: 400). In the sections published from January 7 to February 25 the author recounts the story of the Swedish Lutheran church at Chisago Lake, giving special attention to the services of three pioneer religious leaders, Erland Carlsson, Eric Norelius, and Pehr A. Cederstrom. Several installments are devoted to the founding and early years of the county's first village, Center City. The autobiography of O. M. Linnell, a pioneer who emigrated from Sweden in 1853 and settled at Chisago Lake in the following year, is the basis for a section that opens in the issue for March 18. The quotations presented in the *Press* are drawn from an English translation made by the writer's grandson, the Reverend C. V. Swenson.

A windmill built on a Dakota County farm by Mr. Magnus Miller, a Swedish immigrant of 1892, is the subject of a sketch in the *Dakota County Tribune* of Farmington for January 1. The windmill was a gigantic structure, five stories high, with fans sixty-four feet long, and it was built entirely of wood. For many years Mr. Miller ground feed for his neighbors, turning out as many as eight hundred sacks in twenty-four hours. A photograph of Mr. Miller, who now lives at Lakeville, appears with the article.

"Stores were really 'general'" in the small Minnesota towns of the 1860's, "and some of the items they sold have a strange sound to our

cars." Thus writes Miss Margaret Snyder, whose essay on Chatfield appears elsewhere in this magazine, in the *Chatfield News* for January 7. In a column bearing the title "Chatfield Quiz," she draws upon account books kept by pioneer merchants for interesting and valuable information about business methods, types of merchandise offered for sale, and prices. Miss Snyder reveals that in one Chatfield store "a hoop skirt costing \$2.50 was sold on the same day as a plow that cost \$25.00"; that "candles were a very frequent item, at prices ranging from 12 to 20 cents"; and that a "bed cord could be bought for 25 cents, and a neck yoke for 35." "Early Educational Institutions" draw Miss Snyder's attention in the *News* for January 21, where she devotes some space to the record of the Chatfield Academy. Under the heading "Interesting Data Concerning Early Chatfield History," items about the Medary House, a hotel built in 1857, are presented in the *News* for February 25 and March 4. They are based in large part upon a guest register for the years from 1866 to 1869 which was "salvaged from the attic of the old building" when it was demolished in 1930.

The concluding installment of William H. Cartwright's "History of Newburg Township and the Village of Mabel" (see *ante*, p. 89) appears in the *Mabel Record* for January 15. The final sections of the narrative deal largely with cultural and commercial trends in the period from 1895 to 1914, with comments on such subjects as schools, dramatic entertainments, lyceums, telephone service, and railroads. In his conclusion the writer expresses his conviction that the story of Newburg and Mabel "typifies that of hundreds of similar communities throughout the middle west."

A chronology of the Thursday Musical of Minneapolis during its "first fifty years" is presented in a booklet issued to commemorate its golden jubilee (1942. 20 p.). This record of the club's activities in each season from 1892 to 1942 forms a significant chapter in the musical history of Minneapolis.

Some transportation difficulties encountered by Judge Alfred L. Thwing in Itasca County in the early years of the present century are described in the column entitled "Up in This Neck of the Woods" in the *Grand Rapids Herald-Review* for February 17. A trip that took Judge Thwing into what is now Koochiching County when he was a candidate for the office of county attorney is recalled in some detail. He covered as

much of the county as he could by rail, reached some homesteaders' cabins by walking along a tote road, took a steamboat on the Rainy River to reach International Falls, and hired a motorboat in order to navigate the Little Fork River. The career of a Minnesota lumberman, Mr. Louis F. Harmon of Cohasset, is sketched in the *Herald-Review* for February 3. His first connection with the lumber industry was made in 1897, when he was employed on a log drive on the Prairie River; by 1923 he had become logging superintendent for the International Lumber Company.

A significant aspect of the history of communication in a local community is reviewed in an article, in the *Hutchinson Leader* for March 26, on the development of telephone service at Hutchinson. The narrative discloses information on the earliest toll line in the area, which reached Hutchinson in September, 1897, and had its first use when a local physician was called for an emergency case in a rural district near by. The story of the organization of the first local exchange under a franchise granted to W. S. and M. W. Clay also is related. An interesting feature of the article is a list of the thirty-nine names, with addresses and numbers, that appeared in Hutchinson's first telephone directory, issued in March, 1899.

The extraordinary results that can be produced when high school students are encouraged to investigate community history are well illustrated in a typewritten booklet entitled "Our Town," prepared by seniors in the Milaca High School in 1941-42. The writing of the articles and their compilation in the present form served as a project in social science, with Mr. L. E. Westin as the instructor. In the first and most extensive contribution to the booklet, Lorraine Martinson surveys the history of Milaca, from its founding as a lumbering village in 1885 to the present. This account provides a background for sketches on such subjects as "Early Days," population, government, clubs and lodges, transportation, "Economic Trends," and education. A final section on "National Defense" gives recognition to Milaca's role in the war program. Scores of excellent illustrations were made possible through the interest and co-operation of the local newspaper.

"The Early History of Olmsted County" was the subject of an address presented on January 28 before the Rochester Rotary Club by Miss Helen Clapesattle, author of *The Doctors Mayo*. Her address is reviewed in some detail in the *Rochester Post-Bulletin* for January 29.

The history of Trinity Lutheran Church of Rochester and its parochial school are reviewed in a booklet commemorating the seventy-fifth anniversary of both institutions (1942). Both the church and the school were established in 1867 to serve Rochester's growing German population.

A brief history of St. Matthew Lutheran Church in Waterbury Township, Redwood County, is included in a pamphlet issued to commemorate the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the church (1942). The congregation was organized in October, 1892.

Some of the changes in street names in Faribault are listed in an article appearing in the *Faribault Daily News* for February 3. "Central avenue was originally known as Main street" in the Rice County city, according to the *News*, and "prior to 1899 when numbers were installed, avenues and streets had some very attractive names." Many of the old names are recalled in the present narrative, which includes a useful list of recent "additions" to the city.

Because little has been written about the history of Roseau County, a section on "Agricultural History and Statistics" in a recent *Soil Survey of Roseau County* by P. R. McMiller and others (1942. 80 p.) will be found particularly useful. A brief statement about exploration is followed by some notes on settlement, which began in 1885, on the building of railroads after 1900, and on the development of agriculture and dairying. The *Survey* was published by the Bureau of Plant Industry of the United States Department of Agriculture, in co-operation with the University of Minnesota Agricultural Experiment Station.

How Stillwater evolved from a logging camp with a single crude inn at which lumbermen could stop on their way to the timber stands of the St. Croix Valley is explained by Emma Glaser in a feature article commemorating the city's centennial, in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for February 14. Figuring in the narrative are such prominent Minnesota pioneers as Franklin Steele, Joseph R. Brown, and John McKusick, and others of purely local fame, like Jacob Fisher, builder of the first mill at Stillwater. The author records that other mills followed this pioneer venture "until there were eleven working at top speed," and eventually the city's "enormous mill and rafting activities called other industries to life." Some attractive St. Croix River scenes, including one of the Stillwater boom, illustrate the article.

An exhibit of water colors by Josephine Lutz of "historic landmarks" in old Stillwater was held in that city on March 5 under the auspices of the Friday Study Club. A catalogue of the twenty-five pictures displayed not only lists the titles, but presents brief historical notes on the structures included. The collection, writes Professor Lawrence Schmeckebier in his introduction to the catalogue, "is a modest attempt to record the architectural beauty that is part of Stillwater's artistic heritage." The pictures are the work of "an artist whose home is in Stillwater and whose artistic activity has contributed much to the cultural life of the community." In producing a permanent record of some of Stillwater's interesting pioneer houses and other structures, Miss Lutz has set an example that might well be followed by other artists working in other Minnesota communities. Such early Minnesota settlements as Afton, Marine, Hastings, Winona, Red Wing, Little Canada, and the Twin Cities have much to offer the artist in the way of subjects similar to those used by Miss Lutz.

Some intimate details of life in the St. Croix Valley logging camps are included in the "Logging Recollections" of George F. J. Vollmer, published in the *Stillwater Gazette* for February 4. He recalls that "half of Washington county went up river when October came." The personnel, the food, and the modes of transportation used in the lumber camps are among the subjects touched upon.

Some interesting reminiscent letters written by the late H. C. Garvin of Winona, in which he recalls experiences at Tracy in the early 1880's, are quoted in the *Tracy Headlight-Herald* for February 5. The letters are included in a scrapbook compiled by Garvin and recently presented to the Tracy Public Library. Garvin became station agent in the Lyon County town in 1881, "when the immigrants were pouring through Tracy en route to Dakota Territory." Many of the items in the scrapbook relate to his railroading activities in the vicinity of Tracy.



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