

Reviews of Books

The Territorial Papers of the United States. Compiled and edited by CLARENCE EDWIN CARTER. Vol. 10: *The Territory of Michigan, 1805-1820.* (Washington, United States Government Printing Office, 1942. xi, 948 p. \$2.00.)

Like its predecessors in this series, this volume is made up of selections from a vast bulk of papers, and, as has been the case earlier, the editor appears to have used judgment and discrimination in his choice of documents. "The principal problem confronting the United States in the territory of Michigan, as in all the territories, was administrative in character; priority is therefore given to documents possessing a relevancy to administration" (p. iv). Papers relating to the extension of the postal service are printed so far as they were found, although the files are broken; papers relating to the public lands are heavily drawn upon, although there is no attempt to include all documents found, since many were routine and repetitious; and papers relating to Indian affairs are largely excluded, since "Indian relations transcended territorial boundaries and frequently cannot be said to be a part of any one territory" (p. v). Papers printed earlier and still easily accessible are not reprinted here.

The contents of the volume are grouped in "parts." Part 1 contains papers relating to the foundations of the territory, from 1803 to 1805; parts 2 to 4, those relating to the three administrations of Governor Hull, from 1805 to 1813; part 5, those relating to the period of British occupation, from 1812 to 1813; and parts 6 and 7, those relating to the three administrations of Governor Cass, from 1813 to 1820.

In 1818, when the Congress enacted a law authorizing the people of the Territory of Illinois to draw up a constitution and form a state government, the boundary of Michigan Territory was extended westward to the Mississippi River, and consequently that portion of the future territory and state of Minnesota situated between the Mississippi and the St. Croix came under the jurisdiction of Governor Cass. This volume, however, contains no documents which bear upon this area nor upon persons identified with it. Governor Cass's expedition of 1820, which took him and his party as far as the lake now known by his name, falls just out-

side the scope of this compilation. While no announcement to the effect has been made, it is anticipated that volume 11 of the *Territorial Papers* will contain considerable material of interest to students of Minnesota history.

LESTER B. SHIPPEE

The Trans-Mississippi West: A Guide to Its Periodical Literature (1811-1938). By OSCAR OSBURN WINTHER. (Bloomington, Indiana University, 1942. xv, 263 p. \$1.50.)

The periodicals covered by this volume are, first, those published by the regional and state historical societies in the area; second, historical periodicals of a general nature that contain material on the history of the Trans-Mississippi West; and third, a number of magazines that are not primarily devoted to history, but nevertheless include valuable material. Among the latter are such publications as the *Atlantic Monthly*, *Harper's Magazine*, *Niles' Weekly Register*, and the *North American Review*.

The 3,501 items listed in the volume are grouped under subject headings consisting of the names of the various states in the region, listed alphabetically, and interspersed with numerous other topics, such as cattle, frontier, fur trade, Great Plains, Indians, Mormons, Oregon country, transportation and communication, and the like. Under each state and under most of the other topics there is a further classification, the nature of which varies with the state or topic. Citations are not repeated under different headings, but there are frequent cross references which enable the user to find all material listed in the volume on any topic. There is a useful author index at the close of the book.

Obviously a volume of this size could not possibly contain references even to all the significant articles and source materials printed in the periodicals covered. If another edition of this guide is contemplated the compiler may well go into greater detail in stating the principles adopted in making the selections. The present writer, for instance, is somewhat at a loss to discover why certain articles with which he is familiar are included, while other articles in the same fields and of apparently equal importance are omitted. The compiler, of course, has his reasons for the selections made, and a more specific statement in the preface would give the user a clearer idea of the limitations that were adopted.

Students of western American history are indebted to Dr. Winther for this very useful volume. It is to be hoped that he will prepare a com-

panion volume devoted to the proceedings and reports of professional societies and to the "fugitive literature," as is suggested in the preface.

DAN E. CLARK

Indian Villages of the Illinois Country (Illinois State Museum, *Scientific Papers*, vol. 2 — part 1, *Atlas*). Compiled by SARA JONES TUCKER. (Springfield, 1942. xiii, 18 p. Maps. \$3.00.)

According to the compiler's preface, the aim of this work as a whole, of which the *Atlas* is part 1, is "to make available what is known so far about . . . what Indian tribes formerly occupied Illinois and in what areas they lived. It also considers the sites of their villages, their movements to new areas, and the contacts between the various tribes." The *Atlas* presents a selection from the maps used in developing the materials for part 2, which is in preparation. Part 2 will summarize these maps and other sources, and will include also "reproductions of letters, journals, reports, pictures, and other original documents."

Part of the maps reproduced in the *Atlas* were collected by the "ethno-history program" of the department of anthropology of the University of Chicago, as a part of its effort to recover and make available manuscript materials in libraries, public archives, and private collections, which hold "a widely scattered, though buried story of the Indian and of the period when he and the white man jointly occupied the Illinois Country." The collection of the rest of the maps, and their preparation for publication, was made possible by the Illinois State Museum.

The *Atlas* includes fifty-four excellent reproductions of original maps and sketches, the earliest of which is dated 1671 and the latest, 1835. They are preceded by a bibliography and a section of explanatory notes to be used in connection with the maps. While the purpose of the work has limited the selection of the maps to those which give information about the location of Indian tribes, nevertheless the *Atlas* should prove a convenient reference tool for any student of Mississippi Valley history; and, in the words of Mr. Thorne Deuel, chief of the Illinois State Museum, who wrote the foreword, it should be of more than passing interest "to the average reader who finds pleasure in rolling back the map to view the period of adventure and exploration that made possible the Illinois of today."

M.W.B.

Schoolcraft-Longfellow-Hiawatha. By CHASE S. OSBORN and STELLANOVA OSBORN. (Lancaster, Pennsylvania, The Jaques Cattell Press, 1942. xix, 697 p. Illustrations. \$5.00.)

The thesis of this ponderous and badly organized volume is expressed by the authors on page 560: "Without Schoolcraft's poetical interest in the subject, *The Song of Hiawatha* would never have been written." In other words, Chase Osborn, ex-governor of Michigan, and his daughter have compiled this book, first, to refute all charges that Longfellow was indebted to the Finnish epic of the "*Kalevala*" in creating his poem about Hiawatha and, second, to prove the poet's explicit obligations to Henry Rowe Schoolcraft. Although few informed scholars have ever doubted the original contention of the authors, they do succeed in substantiating their point by a mass of evidence.

The very title of the volume betokens its miscellaneous nature. The bewildered reader is introduced first to a personal controversy between Mr. Osborn and a Detroit newspaper columnist. Then, after a quite needless digression concerning the admirable qualities of the Finnish people and Mr. Osborn's own travels in Lapland, one is given a broad account of the Hiawatha country, which involves the mineralogy, geography, and history of Lake Superior, and the genealogy of Hiawatha himself, which the authors seem to identify with the ancestry of Schoolcraft's half-breed wife, Jane Johnston. Almost two hundred pages are devoted to parallels between the poem and the legends published by Schoolcraft in such volumes as *Algie Researches* and *Oneota*; in the course of the discussion practically the whole poem is printed. The final three hundred and sixty pages include a detailed but unmethodical biography of Schoolcraft, a section of letters written by Schoolcraft chiefly to his brother-in-law George Johnston, for a while subagent at La Pointe, and a long bibliography of items by and about Schoolcraft.

Such heterogeneous material would have puzzled many an author. The Osborns, unfortunately, not only yield to the ramifications of their subject, but seem unable to present it concisely and logically. Repetitions are frequent. A minor work such as Schoolcraft's *View of the Lead Mines of Missouri* is discussed under half a dozen categories without much regard to what has previously been said. Details and dates of Indian treaties are given several times. Schoolcraft's distinctions and activities are reiterated *ad nauseam* and in almost identical language. Even biographical details of the Schoolcraft family are repeated without point.

In style, too, the book is weak. The passion of the authors for superlatives is annoying. One might tolerate their warm praise of the size and beauty and grandeur of Lake Superior, but few people would deem the St. Mary's River "the noblest of all earth's rivers" (p. 86) or acclaim Longfellow as the greatest American poet (p. 26). In general the book is loosely written, with staccato, incoherent paragraphs and carelessly chosen language. Solecisms are not numerous, but one is puzzled by such a sentence as the following: "In 1941, hunters crossing the Straits of Mackinac took home 11,000 deer, which lately are increasing in number" (p. 54). Stringent editing would have eliminated such gaucheness.

All this is not to deny the book merit. Although a critical reader will hardly be impressed by the first half of the volume, which covers very familiar ground, he will be grateful for the biographical study of Schoolcraft and for the honest eulogy of this versatile man. Schoolcraft is far too often dismissed as an Indian agent at Sault Ste. Marie and Mackinac who happened to hit upon the true source of the Mississippi when Pike and Cass and Beltrami had failed. The Osborns strive hard to rectify this picture. For Schoolcraft's activities ranged from glassmaking and poetry to exploring, trading with and conciliating the Indians, conducting geological surveys from Michigan to Arkansas, and gathering ethnological data of primary importance. Henry Rowe Schoolcraft emerges from this survey as a shrewd and gifted individual. If the state of Michigan is obligated to him for various place names, for educational services, and for the peaceful extinguishing of Indian titles to many thousands of acres, writers and ethnologists are in his debt for a multitude of details about the legends, the history, the life, and the culture of the Chippewa.

The extensive Schoolcraft bibliography here given is particularly valuable to the student of Indian life in the upper lake country. It is to be hoped that Schoolcraft's more important volumes, like his *Algic Researches* and *History, Condition and Prospects of the Indian Tribes of the United States*, will sometime be available in new editions.

JOHN T. FLANAGAN

Walter Reed: Doctor in Uniform. By L. N. WOOD. (New York, Julian Messner Inc., 1943. vi, 277 p. Illustrations. \$2.50.)

This is a new life of Walter Reed written in a more popular style than those previously published. Almost half of the book narrates his life previous to his final and momentous work in determining the method of the

propagation of yellow fever and the role played by the mosquito in its transmission. Reed was an energetic student in his youth and he never relaxed his ambitions and ideals during the sixteen years of the ordinary dull routine work as an army surgeon in small western army posts. It was not till he was forty, a rather advanced age, that he began the scientific medical study that later made him famous.

The book brings out the fact, often overlooked, that he was for two years stationed in Minnesota after his work at Johns Hopkins, and that he continued his work in St. Paul in the laboratory of the high school with Dr. Louis B. Wilson, then an instructor there. The tremendous and world-wide value of the yellow fever investigation, one of the great gifts of the medical profession to humanity, is not sufficiently stressed by the author. In several places, involved paragraphs obscure the author's meaning. Dr. Howard Kelly's work, *Walter Reed and Yellow Fever*, is a much better book.

JOHN M. ARMSTRONG

Iowa in Times of War. By JACOB A. SWISHER. (Iowa City, The State Historical Society of Iowa, 1943. 395 p. \$3.00.)

"Forts are like men. They come and serve and go, frequently leaving a record that is worthy of preservation. . . . Like men, they leave records of service. . . . As the biographies of men index the histories of nations, so the stories of forts indicate the course of military events." With this significant observation, the author of the present volume proceeds to acquaint us with the early forts of Iowa. They were built for many different purposes—to quell Indian disturbances, to promote Indian trade, to protect the pioneers from the Indians, to aid settlers in seeking new homes, and to shelter early surveyors. When a fort had fulfilled the purpose for which it had been built, it was abandoned. A succession of forts often sprang up upon the same site. Fort Des Moines, for example, over the past century has served as a post for frontier troops, a training center for Negro officers, and recently, as the original training center for the WACS, it became the "West Point for Women."

But one learns much more than the mere history of forts from this volume. The origin and development of the state militia, its many and varied duties, such as "preserving the public peace" during the famous prize fight between Tom Allen and Joe Hogan in 1873, and other duties, are here set forth in interesting style. The chapter on the national

guard units as they developed in Iowa might well serve as a model for other state historians who are planning similar histories. Poorly prepared as this country always was when wars came, how much worse things might have been had not the various states maintained at least skeleton military organizations, such as the old militia companies and the national guard units!

A wealth of information is contained in three chapters on "Uniforms and Equipment," "Military Camps," and "Weapons." The uniforms have undergone many changes, all for the good, from the days of the American Revolution down to the present. Today, uniforms are designed for one purpose only—to meet the conditions under which the individual fighting units are serving. The same careful planning enters into the camp life of the soldier, sanitary conditions being a major factor in selecting camp sites. Proper food and rations are carefully and scientifically prepared, and medical care is immediately at hand. Shades of Valley Forge! And in the matter of weapons, a technological revolution has occurred, including improvements in the manufacture of rifles, powder, cannon, grenades, armor and steel-plate shells, and, most recently, the development of tanks.

The soldier statesman has fared well, generally speaking, in Iowa politics. Senators Brookhart, Steck, and Gillette were all soldiers before they were elected to the United States Senate. In 1942, six of the nine Iowa members of the House were veterans of the First World War, and Iowa has contributed its share of distinguished men to the armed forces. In 1930, for example, four of the fifty-three rear admirals in the United States Navy were from Iowa; Admiral W. O. Leahy, now chief of staff to President Roosevelt, was born in Iowa; and Captain Eddie Rickenbacker once lived in Des Moines.

This volume is one of a series that is being published in preparation for Iowa's centennial in 1946. It marks an excellent beginning.

JOHN W. OLIVER

Watershed Drama: Battle Lake, Minnesota. By J. VENNERSTRÖM CANNON. (Berkeley, California, The Gillick Press, 1942. x, 117 p. Illustrations. \$2.50.)

This is the kind of book that forces one, however reluctantly, to admit the justification for ghostwriting. Experience worth sharing and the ability to re-create it in words are not necessarily companion gifts. Mrs.

Cannon must have more than this to tell, and in better order. As Jennie Amelia Vennerström, she lived out her childhood in the new Scandinavian settlement at Battle Lake in Otter Tail County. Determined from the age of five to learn how to paint, she set out, after working her way through Hamline University, on a "pursuit of Art" that carried her into half the world's countries before she settled down to domestic life in California. Probably owing to this artistic training, her book is exceptionally attractive in physical format.

The peculiarly significant phases of the story are two: details of life among the Battle Lake "Scandis" in the 1860's and 1870's, and the author's progress from shame about her difference from the superior Yankee neighbors to a mature pride in her Swedish heritage. Unfortunately, neither of these stories emerges for the reader unless he can himself supply two lines for every one of the author's. And the past is mixed with present and future, immigrant customs with moral philosophy, Europe with America, in such higgledy-piggledy fashion that the reader must chart the story for himself if he is to get it straight — and then he finds it incomplete at several vital points.

It is the living quality of what details there are that makes one wish the material had been handled by an experienced storyteller. There is familiar poignancy in the account of the shy immigrant child made aware of her heavy, brass-tipped shoes and dress of coarse brown bed ticking by her contact with a daintily feminine schoolteacher. There is human warmth in the description of the new immigrants so eager to be like the Yankees that as soon as they had money enough they replaced their ancestral pewter with cheap American crockery, their hand-wrought furniture brought at great cost from Europe with graceless machine-made stuff from American factories. There is convincing reality in the excited wonder with which the settlers made the acquaintance of the new fluting iron and sewing machine, in the care with which they guarded the marks cut into the window sill as a substitute for a clock or sundial, in their hoarding of the precious mite of sugar in a box hung high from the ceiling out of reach of little fingers.

But of living characters there are few, and of real narration almost none. Nor are the Battle Lake community and its inhabitants sketched in more than the vaguest outline. The author might have done better there with her brush and oils.

HELEN CLAPESATTLE

Minnesota Historical Society Notes

THE SOCIETY'S participation in the Stillwater centennial celebration on August 21 gave its members an opportunity to attend, despite wartime restrictions, a program comparable to a session of the summer tours and conventions enjoyed in times of peace. The short bus trip from the Twin Cities to Stillwater could be made without placing the strain on transportation facilities that an extensive tour would entail. The society was represented on the program by the curator of its museum, Mr. Willoughby M. Babcock, who took as his subject "One Hundred Years Ago in St. Croix County, Wisconsin Territory." Other features of the program were a brief talk by Governor Thye, a paper on "Pioneer Women in the Development of Stillwater" by Miss Emma Glaser of Stillwater, and a historical pageant reviewing the "Story of Stillwater."

Dr. Beeson and Mr. Babcock attended the annual meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association, which was held at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, from April 21 to 23. Dr. Beeson also went to Prairie du Chien on May 21 to attend ceremonies commemorating the one-hundredth anniversary of the building of the Villa Louis there. This pioneer mansion, which was long the home of Hercules L. Dousman, a prominent figure in the fur trade of Minnesota and Wisconsin, is now maintained as a museum.

The society's large collection of books about western travel recently yielded an interesting comment on a picture displayed by the Minneapolis Institute of Arts. The extract, which comes from Paul Bourget's *Outre-Mer: Impressions of America* (New York, 1895), is quoted under the heading "Reunion in Saint Paul" in the institute's *Bulletin* for April 24. It reveals that a French traveler who visited St. Paul half a century ago found there in the James J. Hill collection a Delacroix painting of the coast of Morocco that he had seen many years earlier in Europe. The picture was loaned to the institute for a spring exhibit by Mr. Louis W. Hill of St. Paul.

A note on the wartime activities of the society's museum was contributed by Mr. Babcock to the April issue of the *Quarterly* of the Midwest Museums Conference. Similar statements from other museums are being

presented in this publication, in an effort to call attention to "constructive activity by museums of the middle west" and to give "suggestions upon ways of adjusting to war conditions."

Mrs. Leone Brower, assistant cataloguer in the society's library, resigned in June, and Miss Esther Johnson, former catalogue assistant, was promoted to the position. Her place was filled by the appointment of Mrs. Mary McKenney, who had served previously for some months as an assistant in the manuscript division. Miss Ida Kramer, who was engaged in cataloguing manuscripts, and Miss Eva Wood, a typist in the manuscript division, resigned also in June. The work of cataloguing has been taken over by Miss Helen Gladoski, and Miss Eileen Longbotham has been named assistant to the curator of manuscripts.

Among the active members who joined the society during the three months from April 1 to June 30 are two life members, Sinclair Lewis of New York City and Frederick E. Weyerhaeuser of St. Paul, and two sustaining members, Leonard G. Carpenter and Paul Christopherson, both of Minneapolis. In addition, the following annual members were enrolled: Carrie A. Bachtle of Blue Earth, Dr. Stephen H. Baxter of Minneapolis, Dr. Baldwin Borreson of Thief River Falls, John Huntington Cook of Trenton, New Jersey, W. E. Dahlquist of Thief River Falls, Mr. and Mrs. Karl DeLaittre of Wayzata, Leonard R. Dickinson of Bemidji, Wilhelm Holm of Tyler, Mrs. J. R. Johns of Winona, Dr. Edward Kaufman of Appleton, Dr. John L. Mills of Winnebago, Andrew B. Shea of Minneapolis, Dr. Edwin J. Simons of Swanville, Margaret Snyder of Chatfield, L. W. Spicer of Albert Lea, George C. Sudheimer of St. Paul, Mrs. George W. Sugden of Mankato, and Adolph A. Toftey of Grand Marais.

A member of the society's executive council, William H. Bovey of Minneapolis, died on April 27. Another active member whose death occurred in the second quarter of 1943 was Alexander P. Anderson of Red Wing.

A recent addition to the list of the society's institutional members is the Greysolon du Lhut chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution of Duluth.

Some of the reasons for collecting and preserving war records are enumerated by Jacob Hodnefield, acting head of the society's newspaper

department and supervisor of the Minnesota War History Committee, in a communication published in the *Minnesota Defense Council Bulletin* for May 24.

Historic sites in the Twin Cities area that might serve as appropriate subjects for the artist's brush were enumerated and described by Dr. Beeson before the Minnesota Artists Association meeting in Minneapolis on April 6. Dr. Nute spoke on the "Fur Trade and Fur Traders" before the Hennepin County Historical Society at Richfield on April 13, and on the "Kensington Rune Stone" before the brotherhood of a Lutheran church at Marine on April 30.

CONTRIBUTORS

Miss Emma Glaser, whose explanation of "How Stillwater Came to Be" opens the present issue, is a native of the St. Croix Valley city, which is marking its centennial this year. She has taught English in a number of schools and colleges, including the Moorhead State Teachers College and the Smith College Day School. Among her writings are a book on the teaching of junior high school English, a volume of readings on the social studies, and a survey of the development of the St. Croix Valley. She expresses the hope that the latter, which is still unpublished, will have "popular and lasting appeal."

Upon discovering that biographers of Dr. Walter Reed had almost completely neglected the Minnesota phase of his career, Miss Bertha L. Heilbron, the assistant editor of this magazine, began an investigation the results of which appear in the current issue. The contributor of a group of "Finnish Proverbs in Minnesota," Miss Majorie Edgar, is an authority on Finnish folklore. In earlier issues of this magazine, she published articles on Finnish folk songs and charms in the state, and on "Imaginary Animals of Northern Minnesota."

In 1941 Mrs. Hildegard Binder Johnson received a grant-in-aid from the Social Science Research Council for the study of the German element in Minnesota. Her continued interest in the subject has resulted in the publication of several articles, including the present history of the Carver County German Reading Society and an account of "Immigrant Traditions and Rural Middle Western Architecture" in the June, 1943, issue of the *American-German Review*. Miss Esther Jerabek is head of the accessions department in the society's library. Her earlier publications, which

deal largely with the Czech element, include an article on "The Transition of a New-World Bohemia" in the issue of this magazine for March, 1934.

The president of the society, Dr. Lester B. Shippee, who is professor of history in the University of Minnesota, heads the list of authors contributing reviews to this number. He is followed by Dr. Dan E. Clark, head of the department of history in the University of Oregon; Mrs. Mary W. Berthel, editorial assistant on the society's staff; Dr. John T. Flanagan, a member of the English faculty in the University of Minnesota to whom a Guggenheim fellowship was awarded for 1943-44; Dr. John W. Oliver, professor of history in the University of Pittsburgh; Dr. John M. Armstrong, a St. Paul physician and a member of the society's executive council; and Miss Helen Clapesattle, chief editor for the University of Minnesota Press and the author of the recent biography of *The Doctors Mayo*.

ACCESSIONS

Four volumes of business records of the Marine lumbering firm of Judd, Walker and Company, dating chiefly from the period from 1849 to 1871, have been presented by Mr. Roy E. Strand of Marine. One of the volumes is a cash book for the years 1849 to 1854, two are ledgers for the period from 1866 to 1871, and a fourth contains a record of the firm's shipments on St. Croix River boats from 1864 to 1868. An examination of these manuscript volumes reveals that they contain much valuable data about such subjects as St. Croix River boats and their captains, types and quantities of goods shipped and their destinations, and provisions and materials used by the lumber company. A large collection of the records of the concern, which later was known as Walker, Judd, and Veazie, was presented by Mr. Strand in 1934 (see *ante*, 15:346). The newly acquired records are an important addition to this valuable collection of business papers.

Pioneer life in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and other western states chiefly in the 1850's, are pictured in the diaries and letters of Andrew J. Sterrett, recently presented by his son, Mr. A. J. Sterrett of Erie, Pennsylvania. The diaries, which cover the years from 1849 to 1865, show that Sterrett spent much of his time in St. Paul during the five years from 1849 to 1854; that he visited the Lake Superior country and the future

site of Superior, Wisconsin; that he made trips into Iowa by stage and on Mississippi River boats; that he lived for short periods in Illinois, Missouri, Kansas, and Iowa; and that in 1860 he returned to Erie, Pennsylvania, his original place of residence.

A list of plants found by Increase A. Lapham and Robert Kennicott in the Red River Valley in 1857 has been copied by the microfilm process from the original in the Lapham Papers in the possession of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. It is one of several items in this important collection relating to Dr. John A. Kennicott, the Chicago editor, and his naturalist son, Robert Kennicott, to be copied for the society and added to the Kennicott material acquired earlier (see *ante*, p. 61). Most of the newly received material dates from 1856 and 1857 and relates to Robert's Minnesota visit of the latter year.

Detailed information about the birds and mammals of northwestern Minnesota in the two decades from 1889 to 1909 is to be found in eleven notebooks presented by Mr. Ernest L. Brown of Powell, Wyoming. He made the notations included in these manuscript volumes while he was living at Warren, where he was employed as a taxidermist. There is also information about the Indians who lived in the vicinity of Warren about the turn of the century.

The papers of Henry Oldenburg of Carlton have been presented by his daughter, Miss Margaret Oldenburg of St. Paul. They cover the period from 1888 to 1934 and deal largely with Oldenburg's two special interests, forestry and Jay Cooke State Park.

A number of interesting items relating to William Windom, recently received from his grandson, Mr. Roger L. Windom of Orlando, Florida, doubtless will form the nucleus for an extensive collection of material on the career of one of Minnesota's important public figures. Windom, who settled at Winona in 1855, served the state in Congress both as a representative and a senator, and he was secretary of the treasury in the cabinets of Garfield and Harrison in 1881 and from 1889 to 1891. Among Mr. Windom's gifts are letters and other manuscripts that contain information on the genealogy of the Windom family; manuscript and printed versions of a *Tribute of the New York Chamber of Commerce to William Windom*, issued in New York after his death in 1891; and a pamphlet presenting the *Address of Rev. Teynis S. Hamlin, D.D. at the Obsequies of William Windom* at Washington on February 26, 1891. He

has also presented several portraits of Windom and of his wife, Ellen Towne Windom. Included in this group is a likeness of Windom that appeared on a two-dollar bill issued in the series of 1891. By special arrangement, it was struck from the original plate in the possession of the treasury department, which permitted Mr. Windom to have two copies made. One of these delicate steel engravings has been given to the society; the other is in Mr. Windom's possession. Another interesting addition to the Windom collection is a plaster bust of the senator, presented by his daughter, Miss Florence B. Windom of Boston.

Minnesota's participation in the Spanish-American War and the Philippine Insurrection is reflected in the correspondence of Edmund P. Neill of Red Wing, recently presented by his daughter, Mrs. Lila N. Hillyer of Madison. Neill was a journalist who served with the American forces in 1898 and 1899. His letters contain detailed descriptions of military camps in Minnesota and other parts of the United States, and of native life and customs in the Philippines.

Some papers and records of a Minneapolis lumber firm, which was known as E. W. Backus and Company until 1899 and later took the name of Backus-Brooks Company, have been received from the Minneapolis Public Library. Included are five volumes of ledgers, journals, cash books, and minutes of stockholders' meetings covering short intervals in the period from 1892 to 1901, and a folder of typewritten minutes of stockholders' meetings held from 1899 to 1911.

"Some Phases of Iron Ore Transportation in Minnesota and on Lake Superior" is the title of an honor thesis prepared by Mildred Miller while a student in Hamline University, St. Paul, a copy of which has been presented by the history department of the university.

A large number of war production plant publications issued in Minnesota are being received regularly by the society, which is preserving the files for the future historian of the state's part in the war effort. Although many of these journals present items chiefly of interest to employees, most of them also contain information about war materials manufactured and processes used. Among such publications currently received are the *Twin City Ordnance News*, issued at New Brighton; the *Monark*, published by the Federal Cartridge Corporation at Anoka; the *Hoister* and the *Crosby Clipper* of the American Hoist and Derrick Company of St

Paul; the *3-M Megaphone* of the Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company of St. Paul; the *M-H Circulator* of the Minneapolis Honeywell Regulator Company; the *MM Merchandiser* of the Minneapolis Moline Power Implement Company; and the *Beam* of the Northwest Airlines.

An interesting pen and ink sketch of Dr. William W. Folwell, made by W. H. Rubins, a Minneapolis artist, at a dinner given by the society on January 17, 1921, to mark the completion of the first volume of Dr. Folwell's *History of Minnesota*, has been presented by Mr. R. W. G. Vail of Albany, New York. At the time of the dinner Mr. Vail was librarian of the Minnesota Historical Society; he is now librarian of the New York State Library. In a letter accompanying his gift, he explains that he sat next to Mr. Rubins at the Folwell dinner, which was held in the main library reading room of the Historical Building. He relates that the sketch was made while the after-dinner speeches were in progress, and that when he admired it, the artist presented it to him. Following the dinner it was autographed by Dr. Folwell.

A square grand piano with a case of carved rosewood, a front panel elaborately inlaid with mother-of-pearl, and white keys of mother-of-pearl is the gift of Mrs. Louis W. Hill, Sr., of St. Paul. It was manufactured by Haines Brothers of New York and, as nearly as can be determined, it dates from the 1840's. The original owner was Mrs. Frederick A. Chapman, a resident of Connecticut; her daughter, the late Mrs. George R. Finch of St. Paul, took it with her to that city, and it has since remained there as a prized possession of the Finch family.

Dr. John M. Armstrong of St. Paul has presented a pair of epaulets worn by his grandfather and a white lace bonnet that belonged to his grandmother, both of which were used about the middle of the last century. A black dress coat worn by George W. Armstrong about 1859 is another item in this gift.

A patchwork quilt in the log cabin design, dating from 1865, is the gift of Mrs. W. H. Lamson of St. Paul. Two white silk vests and a man's shawl, all used about 1860, and a powder flask of 1861 have been presented by Dr. L. C. Bacon of St. Paul.

A bicycle of the high-wheeled type used about 1890 has been presented by Mr. Wallace Winter of Chicago, through the courtesy of Mrs. Laura Dean of St. Paul.

A shirt and a pair of leggings of white buckskin beautifully trimmed with quill work, made by Sioux Indians of the Plains, have been presented by the Misses Anita and Laura Furness of St. Paul. They have also given a shirt and a pair of leggings made by Chippewa Indians from red trade cloth. Eight baskets made by Indians of the Pacific coast area have been received from Mr. William A. Laidlaw of St. Paul.

From Lieutenant Commander Harold E. Stassen the society has received the pen that he used in signing the last bill passed by the legislature of 1943, just before he resigned from the governorship of the state to enter the United States Navy.

A group of stereopticon views of St. Paul and its vicinity in the 1870's and 1880's has been presented by Miss Minnie Ossmann of St. Paul. Her gift includes a Chippewa ceremonial bag of bead work and a knife sheath. Eleven photographs of the Newport area, taken after a severe tornado in 1890, have been presented by Mrs. Pearl Schock of Newport.

Photographs of Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Lindeke, early residents of St. Paul, have been presented by their daughter, Miss Emma Lindeke of St. Paul. Another St. Paul pioneer, Peter Hopkins, is the subject of two portraits received from Mrs. George G. Sadd of Manchester, New Hampshire.

Several of the genealogies added to the society's library in recent months trace families that settled in Southern states. Among them are W. Gordon Belser, *The Belser Family of South Carolina* (1941. 67 p.); Judson Councill, *Hodges Councill of Virginia and Descendants* (Baltimore, 1941. 108 p.); *The John Blair Dabney Manuscript, 1795-1868* (Richmond, Virginia, 1942. 51 p.); Daniel H. Redfearn, *History of the Redfearn Family* (Miami, 1942. 160 p.); George M. G. Stafford, *General Leroy Augustus Stafford, His Forebears and Descendants* (New Orleans, 1943. 474 p.); Fanny F. Thrailkill, *Ancestral Chart of Joseph C. Thrailkill* (Minneapolis, 1934. 16 p.); and C. J. Maxwell, *Descendants of William Wilson (1722-1801) and Elizabeth Blackburn* (Dallas, Texas, 1943. 275 p.).

Minnesota families receive attention in *The Crooks Family of Crooks, South Dakota and Allied Families*, by Fannie S. Spurling (Delavan, Wisconsin, 1942. 37 p.); *The Cortelyou Genealogy* by John V. Cortelyou (Lincoln, Nebraska, 1942. 607 p.); *A Genealogy of the Quick*

Family in America (South Haven, Michigan, 1942. 483 p.); and in two books by Abbie Kyle — the *Godfrey Family Tree* (Fort Atkinson, Wisconsin, 1943. 64 p.), and *Kyle Cousins, Descendants of William and Mary Vance Kyle* (Fort Atkinson, 1941. 101 p.).

Other genealogies acquired recently include: *Handbook of American Genealogy*, volume 4 (Chicago, 1943. 391 p.); Harold K. Bowen, *Book of Adam* (Osceola, Missouri, 1943. 14 p.); Harry T. Briggs, *The Colonial Ancestry of the Family of John Greene Briggs and Isabell Gibbs DeGroff* (New York, 1940. 498 p.); Elmer S. Clark, *Clark of Elizabeth Town in New Jersey* (Pontiac, Illinois, 1942. 229 p.); Fanny F. Thrailkill, *Frick-Markley-Thrailkill Chart* (Minneapolis, 1934. 9 p.); Samuel E. Atherton, *Samuel Goodrich of Chesterfield, N. H., His Ancestors and Descendants* (Muskegon, Michigan, 1942. 20 p.); Mary A. Phinney, *Isham Genealogy, a Brief History of Jirah Isham and His Descendants* (Rutland, Vermont, 1942. 179 p.); William S. Lincoln, *Descendants of Joshua Lincoln and Elizabeth Seekins Lincoln of Taunton, Massachusetts* (Olympia, Washington, 1942. 128 p.); Clarence S. Luitwieler, *Genealogy of the Luitwieler Family* (Abington, Massachusetts, 1942. 31 p.); Edwin M. McBrier, *Genealogy of the Loucks Family* (New York, 1940. 294 p.); Edwin M. McBrier, *Genealogy of the Descendants of Henry McBrier and Kezia Sloan McBrier* (New York, 1941. 284 p.); Albert B. Norton, *Descendants and Ancestors of Charles Norton of Guilford, Connecticut* (Washington, D. C., 1856. 26 p.); Manly Ostrander, *The House of Ostrander* (Deseronto, Ontario, 1942. 32 p.); Bessie L. Vincent, *A Brief History of the Vincent Family in America* (Sandy Creek, New York, 16 p.); and Rufus C. Zartman, *The Zartman Family, 1692-1942* (Rutland, Vermont, 1942. 432 p.).

Of the histories of churches and local histories that were received recently, those most useful to the genealogist are: Kendrick Grobel, *History of the First Church of Stafford, Connecticut* (Stafford Springs, Connecticut, 1942. 87 p.); Mary H. Mitchell, *History of the United Church of New Haven* (New Haven, Connecticut, 1942. 286 p.); Thomas J. de la Hunt, *Perry County: A History* (Indianapolis, Indiana, 1916. 359 p.); Winifred Goss, *Colonial Gravestone Inscriptions in the State of New Hampshire* (Dover, New Hampshire, 1942. 160 p.); Judson L. Broughton, *The Pavilion Community of New York State, 1800-1941* (Le Roy, New York, 1941. 155 p.); F. A. Sondley, *A History of Buncombe County, North Carolina* (Asheville, North Carolina,

1930. 2 vols.); Raymond M. Bell, *The Townships of Mother Cumberland* [Pennsylvania] (1943. 21 p.); Myrtle Magargel, *The History of Rock* (State College, Pennsylvania, 1940. 78 p.); Myrtle Magargel, *The Friends of Halfmoon Valley* (Centre, Pennsylvania, 1941. 39 p.); Mary E. K. Bratton, *History of the First Presbyterian Church of Lynchburg, Virginia, 1815-1940* (Lynchburg, Virginia, 1942. 301 p.); and Elihu J. Sutherland, *Russell County, Virginia, Census of 1820* (Clintwood, Virginia, 1940. 19 p.).

News and Comment

IN ORDER to "present our geographical history as completely and as readily as the *Dictionary of American History* presents our written history," James Truslow Adams and his associates in the preparation of the earlier work have issued an *Atlas of American History* (New York, 1943). The editors felt that there was a need "for maps that would interpret our history through the location of places as they actually existed and exactly where they existed at a given time." The 147 chronologically arranged plates in the *Atlas* admirably meet this need. They serve another purpose also, for on them may be located hundreds of "places commonly mentioned in our factual histories" that heretofore might be found only after referring to "widely separated books, atlases or original maps, often difficult of access and seldom at hand when needed, clumsy to handle — and generally not available in the average library." Among the maps that should be particularly useful to students of Minnesota and Northwest history are those of "New France to 1673" (plates 28 and 29), the "Discovery of the Mississippi" (plate 31), "Trans-Mississippi, French & Spanish, 1600-1750" (plate 36), "Lake Region, 1688-1753" (plate 40), "Indiana and Illinois Territories, 1800-1818" (plate 92), "Michigan Territory, 1805-1837" (plate 93), the "Louisiana Purchase and the Trans-Mississippi West, 1803-1817" (plates 94 and 95), "Boundary Treaties and the Westward Advance, 1818-1836" (plates 100 and 101), and "Wisconsin, Iowa and Minnesota Territories, 1832-1858" (plate 111). Plates 86 and 87, which show the "Geographer's Line and the Seven Ranges" and the system used in the "Survey of the Public Domain" will serve as convenient guides in the study of one phase of frontier history as well as in the reading of maps in general.

That the network of historical areas under the administration of the National Park Service provides an "outdoor or laboratory course for the study of American history" is the claim made by Alvin P. Stauffer and Charles W. Porter in an article on the "National Park Service Program of Conservation for Areas and Structures of National Historical Significance" in the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review* for June. The authors contend that "if the aim of historical study and writing is the accurate portrayal of historic reality, the physical site and its remains

must be visited and given the same careful study that is bestowed on the written sources." The present article reviews legislation and presidential action relating to the preservation of historic sites during the past half century, and presents examples of varied types of sites and structures preserved by the federal government in its attempt "to make these basic historical source materials available to both the scientific historian and the general public."

Three possible solutions for the problems involved in "Planning a Permanent Program for Federal Records in the States" are suggested by Oliver W. Holmes in the April number of the *American Archivist*. He considers the feasibility and discusses the advantages and disadvantages of systems providing for a single depository for all federal records, to be located in Washington, and for regional and state depositories for the handling of federal records of more local interest. His paper is the first of a series, dealing with "The Problem of Federal Field Office Records," read before a meeting of the Society of American Archivists at Richmond, Virginia, on October 26, 1942. The others, which also appear in this number of the *Archivist*, are discussions of "The Interests of the States in Federal Field Office Records" by William D. McCain, of "Army Field Records" by Jesse S. Douglas, and of "The Need for Regional Depositories for Federal Records" by Richard B. Morris.

The Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad Company has placed on deposit with the Newberry Library of Chicago its general office files and records for the years from 1850 to 1887. They cover the period of the road's early expansion from Aurora and western Illinois westward to Burlington and Denver and northward to the Twin Cities. In a letter to Dr. Stanley Pargellis, librarian of the Newberry Library, Mr. Ralph Budd, president of the Burlington Lines, defines the terms of the deposit and describes the scope of the collection. The "records include the correspondence of the pioneers who founded and built this railroad and directed its policy during its first 37 years," writes Mr. Budd, "as well as files relating to construction, operation, and finance, and many items of local and biographical interest." He expresses the belief that they "will provide enlightening and, in many instances, new commentaries on the economic beginnings of the country, as well as on the social customs, the level of technological knowledge, and the business strategy of those early days." Only qualified students engaged in serious research will be given access to the railroad's papers. The collection consists of about ten

tons of records, and it will take about two years to arrange them and prepare them for use by research workers.

The "depiction of historical personages and events on a stage through dialogue and action" is classed as one "means at the command of an historical society wishing to bring back to the people of today the vibrant life of the past" in a *Bulletin* published in April by the American Association for State and Local History. It deals with "The Production of Local History Plays and Pageants," and its author, Samuel Selden, is an experienced director of such performances. He presents useful suggestions on planning and preparing historical plays and pageants, and on the types of historical sources that can be drawn upon for color and authenticity.

Professor Edgar B. Wesley of the University of Minnesota has been appointed chairman of a committee of four educators who are making a study of history teaching methods in the United States. A grant of ten thousand dollars from the Rockefeller Foundation makes the project possible. It is being conducted under the joint supervision of the American and Mississippi Valley historical associations.

A grant of fifty thousand dollars, to be expended by the University of Minnesota over a period of three years in financing fellowships in regional writing, has been made by the Rockefeller Foundation. The fund is being administered by a university committee, of which Dean Theodore C. Blegen of the graduate school is chairman, and Miss Helen Clapesattle, secretary. The committee has announced that it will accept applications for financial assistance from "competent writers interested in preparing biographies, histories, novels, and plays about the life, past or present, of the Central Northwest," an area that roughly embraces Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and North and South Dakota. Both new and established writers are eligible for fellowships under the grant. The amount of aid given will vary with individual needs. Half of the sum allowed will be an outright gift; the other half is to be returned to the fund from the author's royalties on the published work. Applications and letters of inquiry should be addressed to Miss Clapesattle at 103 Westbrook Hall, University of Minnesota.

The Mississippi Valley Historical Association held its thirty-sixth annual meeting at Cedar Rapids, Iowa, from April 22 to 24. Among the sessions of particular interest to students of Northwest history were those

dealing with "Special Collections in Midwestern Archives," "Contributions to Midwestern Cultural History," "Western, Local and Economic History," and "Agricultural History in the Mississippi Valley." Papers presented on these programs included discussions of "The Newberry Library as a Center of Midwestern Research" by Stanley Pargellis, on "The Iowa Masonic Library Collection" by C. C. Hunt, on "Housing on the Prairie and Plains" by James C. Malin, on "C. C. Washburn and Flour Milling" by C. L. Marquette, and on "The Department of Agriculture during the Commissionership" by Earle D. Ross. At a dinner meeting on April 23, Dean Theodore C. Blegen of the University of Minnesota was named president for the coming year (see *ante*, p. 161).

Three papers presented as part of a symposium on "Agricultural Frontiers in the United States" before a meeting of the Agricultural History Society in Chicago on December 29, 1941, have been published in the April number of *Agricultural History*. The process of "Moving Back from the Atlantic Seaboard" is the subject of the first article, which was contributed by Dr. Rodney C. Loehr of the history department in the University of Minnesota. Readers of this magazine will recall his article on Caleb D. Dorr in the issue for June, 1943. Two succeeding articles are Russell H. Anderson's "Advancing Across the Eastern Mississippi Valley," and Everett Dick's "Going Beyond the Ninety-fifth Meridian." In the same issue of *Agricultural History* appears "Frederick Jackson Turner's History of the Grignon Tract on the Portage of the Fox and Wisconsin Rivers." According to a brief introduction by Fulmer Mood and Everett E. Edwards, this essay is the "earliest item of a purely historical character" to be found in the bibliography of Turner's writings, for it was written during his junior year in the University of Wisconsin and was published in a Portage, Wisconsin, newspaper in June, 1883. A photostatic copy of the newspaper article is the basis for the present reprint.

Some notes with documentary and genealogical references on the life of Nicolas Perrot have been contributed by one of his descendants, J.-Alfred Perrault, to the May issue of the *Bulletin des recherches historiques*. S. D.

Dr. Elliott Coues, whose name is familiar to all students of Northwest history for his impressive editions of the journals of Alexander Henry, David Thompson, Zebulon M. Pike, and other explorers, is the subject

of one of the thirty-six biographies assembled in Edgar Erskine Hume's *Ornithologists of the United States Army Medical Corps* (Baltimore, 1942). Coues's record of military service, which is outlined by Dr. Hume, shows that he was ordered to the Department of Dakota in 1872 and that he reported at St. Paul a year later to join, as medical officer and naturalist, an expedition that surveyed the northern boundary from the Red River to the west coast. Of Minnesota and Northwest interest also is a sketch of Dr. George Suckley, who served as naturalist of the Pacific railroad survey when it moved westward from St. Paul in the spring of 1853.

The "Great Lakes Frontier" is the first of four *Zones of International Friction* in the period from 1748 to 1754 considered by Lawrence H. Gipson in volume 5 of a series dealing with the *British Empire Before the American Revolution* (New York, 1942). Events in the remote region beyond Lake Superior receive only slight attention, though there are brief mentions of Fort Beauharnois and of the posts established by the La Vérendryes in their search for the Western Sea.

The fur trade, the lumber industry, iron and copper mining, and grain shipping in the upper Northwest are briefly sketched in *The Story of the Great Lakes* as told for youthful readers by Marie E. Gilchrist (New York, 1942). The book is charmingly illustrated with lithographs by C. H. DeWitt.

Three groups of remarkable pictures, illustrating phases of life in America in the pioneer and Victorian eras, were displayed in the museum of the American Institute of Swedish Arts, Literature, and Science in Minneapolis from May 5 to 16. Of primary significance for the history of the Swedes in America were nine oil paintings in the exhibition of scenes and residents of the Bishop Hill colony of Illinois in the 1850's. They were copied by artists engaged in the Illinois Art Project of the WPA from original paintings by Olof Krans preserved in the colony. A sketch of Krans and a description of the circumstances under which he painted the original pictures is contributed by Albin Widen to the May issue of the institute's *Bulletin*. WPA projects in various western states were responsible for a second group of pictures, consisting of fifty water-color drawings and depicting various tools and implements used by pioneers of the Middle West. Included were pictures of a Red River cart and of a wooden harrow in the collections of the Minnesota Historical Society.

Twenty-five water colors of Victorian interiors, prepared by the New York City WPA Art Project as part of an "Index of American Design," constituted the third group. Ranging in subject matter from a stable to a lady's boudoir, from a country kitchen to a photographer's studio, these highly colored composite drawings were based upon authentic objects, photographs, advertisements, and the like. All the pictures included in the display are in the custody of the Metropolitan Museum of New York. They were exhibited in the West for the first time at the Minneapolis showing, and most of the pictures included had been displayed previously only in New York and in one other eastern community.

In a volume entitled *Newport Tower* (New York, 1942. 344 p.), Philip A. Means undertakes to prove that a round stone tower at Newport, Rhode Island, long believed to have been originally intended for use as a windmill, "is the surviving part of a mediaeval Catholic church, built by Norsemen who came to this country between the XIIth and XIVth centuries." To the mass of evidence that he presents to prove his theory, he adds the inscription on the Kensington rune stone, which, he believes, shows "that around 1362 Vinland was still a 'going concern.'" Incidentally, Mr. Means announces that he has "collected in Copenhagen, Oslo, and Trondhjem some data, perhaps to be published in a later volume, which will finally clinch the authenticity of the Kensington inscription of 1362." Evidence that Mr. Means has not considered all aspects of this controversial subject may be found in his bibliography, for it includes Hjalmar R. Holand's discussion in support of the stone's authenticity, which appeared in this magazine for June, 1936, but it fails to list Laurence M. Larson's scholarly criticism of the problem published in March of the same year (see *ante*, 17: 20-37, 166-188). Among the many interesting illustrations in Mr. Means's book is a picture of the Kensington stone.

A list, compiled by Sverre Arestad, of "Scandinavian-Language Newspapers" that have been or are being published on the Pacific coast appears in a section of the July *Pacific Northwest Quarterly* devoted to "Research Suggestions." In a footnote, Mr. Arestad points out that the "starting point for research in Scandinavian historical writing in this area must . . . begin with the files of the Middle West newspapers," and he calls attention to such files in the possession of the Minnesota Historical Society and the University of Minnesota.

Articles dealing with Norwegian pioneers in Dakota Territory, Iowa, Missouri, and the Pacific coast area are included in volume 13 of the *Norwegian-American Studies and Records* (Northfield, Minnesota, 1943). This most recent publication of the Norwegian-American Historical Association also contains several items of interest for the history of the Norwegian element in Minnesota. References to Scandinavian settlement in Minnesota and other states of the Northwest are to be found in "An Official Report on Norwegian and Swedish Immigration" prepared in 1870 by A. Lewenhaupt, the chargé d'affaires of the Swedish-Norwegian legation in Washington. In the present work, the report is presented in an English translation with a foreword by Dean Theodore C. Blegen of the University of Minnesota graduate school. Mention is made of the impoverished Norwegians "who came over a few years ago without owning a dollar, and now . . . constitute nine-tenths of the most progressive and prosperous farmers in Wisconsin, Iowa, and Minnesota" in an "America letter" of 1868 which appears under the title "A Norwegian Schoolmaster Looks at America." It has been translated and edited by C. A. Clausen. In an article entitled "A Singing Church," Paul Maurice Glasoe gives a concise review of the origin and growth of the music program of St. Olaf College under the stimulating leadership of F. Melius Christiansen. The "Memoirs" of Carl M. Grimstad, which have been edited by Henry H. Bakken and appear under the title "Pioneers in Dakota Territory, 1879-89," have considerable Minnesota interest because they center about the Red River Valley, and include an account of a journey across the state from Goodhue County to Moorhead.

The long and involved doctrinal controversies that caused a rift in the Norwegian Lutheran church and resulted in the reorganization in 1918 of the Norwegian Synod are reviewed in great detail in a little book entitled *Grace for Grace: Brief History of the Norwegian Synod* (Mankato, Minnesota, 1943. 211 p.). Its publication by the Lutheran Synod Book Company commemorates both the reorganization and the founding of the synod in 1853. Thus the book's appearance marks a ninetieth anniversary. More than half of the narrative is devoted to a "Historical Sketch of the Beginnings, Growth and Development of the Norwegian Synod" by Charles Anderson. Chapters relating to the "Doctrinal Controversies" are contributed by G. O. Lillegard.

Readers of Hildegard Binder Johnson's article on the "Carver County German Reading Society," which appears elsewhere in the present issue

of this magazine, will be interested also in her suggestive discussion of "Immigrant Traditions and Rural Middle Western Architecture," which appears in the *American-German Review* for June. After remarking upon the fact that "Few are the German towns and villages that do not have a namesake in one or more Middle Western states," Mrs. Johnson adds regretfully that "the homes in these diverse settlements developed into an amazingly uniform pattern." Occasionally, however, she has succeeded in locating structures that show traces of the builders' European background, and she cites a few examples to be found in Minnesota. Among them is a log house built in 1856 near New Ulm by William Pfaender. "Its broad dimensions, the deep, overhanging, thatched roof covering a porch enabled this solid structure to withstand the worst tornado of the region in 1882," writes Mrs. Johnson. To illustrate her article she presents a picture of the Pfaender house and photographs of buildings erected by a pioneer German settler at Stillwater and an early Norwegian in Otter Tail County. A German contribution to American agricultural history is given recognition by Theodore Schreiber in an article in the April issue of the *Review* on "Joseph Seemann, Creator of Michigan's Sugar Bowl." According to this account, Seemann "sent the first beet seeds to Michigan" from Germany in 1889, and he later encouraged both American and German farmers "to try the new crop by publishing authentic information on the culture of beets."

A group of multigraphed booklets issued from 1937 to 1940 by the Service Bureau for Intercultural Education of New York makes available to teachers and students a suggestive series of racial and cultural studies. Most of the topics are presented in the form of "classroom material"; all the booklets include suggestions for further reading; and a few are purely bibliographical in content. Included in the series are brief, though stimulating, reviews of Czechoslovak, Italian, Welsh, Scottish, Scotch-Irish, and Jewish immigration. The Polish element is represented by a brief bibliography. Special cultural and social contributions to American life are treated in pamphlets on the *German Influence in American Education* by Charlotte Gillard (1937), on *German Cooking and Its Influence in the United States* by Florence Plummer (1937), on *British and Irish Influence on Sports in the United States* by Ruth E. Davis (1939), and on *Scandinavian Cooking and Food Habits* (1940). The Asiatic influence in American life is suggested in a sketch of *Lue Gim Gong, A Chinese-American Horticulturist* (1939).

In a booklet entitled *The Folk Singer*, Dan E. Vornholt has assembled folk songs brought into the Northwest by some sixteen racial groups (1943. 40 p.). One of the three Norwegian songs included, "Oh, Carry Water," is presented in a translation made by Dean Theodore C. Blegen of the graduate school in the University of Minnesota. Both the music and the texts of the songs are given in this booklet, which has been published as a *Special Circular* by the extension service of the college of agriculture of the University of Wisconsin. Another recently published collection of American folk music is presented in the *Gold Rush Song Book*, in which Eleanor Black and Sidney Robertson bring together twenty-five ballads of the forty-niners (San Francisco, 1940).

The where, what, and how of local historical organization and museum collecting are discussed by Loring McMillen in an article entitled "How We Study Local History on Staten Island," which appears in volume 40 of the *Proceedings* of the New York State Historical Association. As borough historian, Mr. McMillen helped to transform the Staten Island Historical Society from an antiquated to a modern institution that is a vital force in the community. His account of the steps by which the transformation was made should serve as a useful guide to local historical leaders in general.

Agricultural organization in one of Minnesota's neighbor states is surveyed by John Henry Haefner in an article on the evolution of the "Iowa State Department of Agriculture" appearing in the April number of the *Iowa Journal of History and Politics*. With the founding of the Iowa State Agricultural Society in December, 1853, writes Mr. Haefner, agricultural organization in the area had its official beginning. He notes that the society was a typical frontier organization, for "it was formed on the initiative of the people concerned, not by the government; it was manned by officers who were intensely interested in the cause"; it "was essentially democratic; and it aimed primarily at crystallizing public opinion and bringing pressure to bear upon the legislature in the interests of agriculture." Its "most dramatic" activity, the management of the Iowa State Fair, is described in some detail. The writer also gives some attention to local agricultural societies, and discusses the development after 1900, when it was established, of the state department of agriculture.

The simple forms of entertainment enjoyed in an isolated rural household of the Middle West in the 1870's are described by Catherine Ann

McCollum in an article on "Winter Evenings in Iowa," which has been edited and annotated for publication in the *Journal of American Folklore* for April-June by Kenneth W. Porter. The author's parents, who had emigrated from Pennsylvania, were of Scotch-Irish ancestry. With them they took to the West a store of folk songs and riddles, many of which are quoted in the present article. Some notes supplementing Gladys J. Haney's Paul Bunyan bibliography in the *Journal* for July-September, 1942, are presented by Herbert Halpert in the issue for January-March.

Emigrants from the East took with them household utensils and local recipes; new homes in the West were "not long established before fragrant aromas rose from the stew pan and the frontier skillet or spider." These points are emphasized by Philip D. Jordan in an article entitled "The Stew Pan and the Spider," published in the *Palimpsest* for April. What the frontier housewife, especially in Iowa, prepared from the products of the Midwest farm, and what her family ate are revealed in this article. Much of the author's information is drawn from old cookbooks.

Tales of lumbering in western Wisconsin in the 1870's and 1880's "When the Chippewa Forks Were Driving Streams" are narrated by Joe A. Moran in the June number of the *Wisconsin Magazine of History*. The article contains some pertinent information about the methods and terminology of the logging drive and the equipment used in the camps.

How the fields of history and art overlap is vividly illustrated in the March *Bulletin* of the Detroit Institute of Arts of the City of Detroit. It presents a "Cross Section of Architecture, 1823-1843," in the form of an essay by Hawkins Ferry on "Representative Detroit Buildings," prepared in connection with an exhibit of photographs and architects' designs of local structures. It is significant that these were assembled, at the suggestion of local architects, as a permanent "archives of Detroit architecture" for preservation by the institute.

The opening to settlement of the Lake Traverse Indian Reservation is recalled in the *Valley News* of Browns Valley for April 15 of the present year, the fifty-first anniversary of the event. At exactly noon of the opening day in 1892, pistols were fired to serve as signals that the reservation was open to land seekers. The scene that followed, according to the *News*, "will never be forgotten by old timers who witnessed it." There was a "great shout" from the spectators, and a "grand stampede and rush" on the part of prospective settlers.

Pictures of the "Past and Present at Lower Fort Garry" are reproduced in the June number of the *Beaver*. Among the buildings depicted are the factor's house and a stone warehouse used for storing furs. Of interest to students of the history of the Red River settlements is an article based upon "Two Curious Fur-trade Wills" left by Peter Fidler and James Leith. The terms of the former, which included the bequest of a substantial library to the Red River colony, are set forth by W. S. Wallace; the latter is explained by E. R. Bagley, who brings out the fact that funds left by Leith made possible the creation of the bishopric of Rupert's Land. Contemporary customs of the Chippewa of Canada are described in articles on the "Medicine Man," and on the "Uses of Birch Bark." The latter account, which is by Douglas Leechman, is accompanied by some excellent illustrations.

GENERAL MINNESOTA ITEMS

The "Indian 'Mystery Writing'" of pictographs found on Lac la Croix and other Minnesota border lakes draw the attention of Ray L. Sicard in the June issue of the *Conservation Volunteer*. Additional comment about pictographs is provided by Dr. Grace Lee Nute of the staff of the Minnesota Historical Society, who cites references to paintings, carvings, and lichen cuttings found in the narratives of early travelers in the border lake country. How Minnesota acquired its "Newest State Park" in April, 1943, when the state accepted from the federal government the area known as St. Croix State Park, is explained by Harold Lathrop in the same issue of the *Volunteer*.

The background of the separation of the Minnesota Chippewa into two groups, the Minnesota Chippewa tribe and the Red Lake band of Chippewa Indians, is analyzed in the *Minnesota Chippewa Bulletin* for May 21. The recent segregation of the lands of the two groups is announced in this number.

In an article on "Ahsahwaince, His Hundred Years," Sister M. Inez Hilger presents, in *Mid-America* for April, a record of an interview with an aged Chippewa of the White Earth Reservation. The record was made for the author in 1936, when she was engaged in gathering material for a study of primitive child life. She believes that it has value both for the anthropologist and for the student of Minnesota's Catholic history. Some information about Catholic missions among the Chippewa

and on the work of such missionaries as Father Francis Pierz and Father Aloysius Hermanutz is added by the author. A condensed version of her article appears in the *Catholic Digest* for June.

A bust of Professor Maria L. Sanford, a member of the University of Minnesota faculty from 1880 to 1909, will be placed in Statuary Hall in the Capitol in Washington, under the provisions of a bill passed by the Minnesota legislature of 1943 and signed by Governor Stassen on April 14. Each state is entitled to place statues of two distinguished citizens in Statuary Hall. Previously, Minnesota has been represented by a likeness of Senator Henry M. Rice.

Under the title "A Bit of Minnesota Legislative History," R. B. Forrest of Lake Wilson presents a series of reminiscent articles in the *Murray County Herald* of Slayton. The first installment, which appears in the issue of May 20, reveals that the author's contact with the Minnesota legislature has covered a half century, since it began in 1893. The writer recalls not only events and personalities connected with the legislative houses, but he tells also of life in Minnesota's capital during the sessions.

A family that had its roots in Minnesota is pictured by David F. Chapman in a little book entitled *A Challenge to Youth: Biography of Robert Henry Michelet* (1943. 110 p.). Although his subject is the brief career of a boy whose life span came to a close before he completed his college course, the author presents some interesting data about the boy's father, Mr. Simon Michelet, a resident of Minnesota and a figure in its political life previous to 1920. Material is presented on Mr. Michelet's services as a lawyer in Minneapolis, as assistant county attorney of Hennepin County, as agent to the Chippewa of the White Earth Reservation in the early 1900's, and as secretary to Senator Knute Nelson.

Mr. James Eckman and Dr. Charles E. Bigelow continue their "History of Medicine in Dodge County," which has been appearing in *Minnesota Medicine* since February, in the issues for April, May, and June. The arrangement is by decades, and the recent installments carry the narrative from the 1860's through the 1880's. Although emphasis is given to sketches of individuals, the authors have improved upon most of the county histories in the "History of Medicine in Minnesota" by identifying the careers of local physicians with local events and regional developments. For example, the relationship between medical practice and the building of railroads is brought out in the section on the 1860's. The au-

thors seem to have used some obscure sources, among them a little paper known as *The Wind Mill* published by Dr. Horace P. Porter at Kasson in the 1870's.

"The Story of St. Paul's Cathedral" is briefly reviewed by Ann Forrester in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for May 30. Much of the account is devoted to a description of the structure, with notes on its architectural features.

The fiftieth anniversary of Concordia College, a Lutheran high school and junior college located in St. Paul, was marked by a four-day program opening on June 6 and closing on June 10. The school was established in 1893 by the Missouri Synod of the Evangelical Lutheran church, with Dr. Theodore Buenger as president. Although he resigned from that post in 1927, his connection with its faculty continued to the end of the present school year. An illustrated anniversary volume (78 p.) issued to commemorate the anniversary is dedicated to Dr. Buenger and it opens with a sketch of his career. It includes also a review of the school's history, sketches of faculty members, accounts of its library and museum, and notes on student activities. Another brief account of the history of Concordia appears in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for May 30.

An attempt made by Samuel A. King to travel by balloon from Minneapolis to the Atlantic coast in September, 1881, is described by Jeremiah Milbank, Jr., in a recent survey of *The First Century of Flight in America* (Princeton, New Jersey, 1943). For the trip King had prepared an enormous balloon, and he planned to take with him six passengers, five of whom were newspaper reporters. Although they made a successful start, unfavorable winds forced an early landing not far from the take-off. King's exploit seems to be the only Minnesota flight mentioned by Mr. Milbank, who fails to take note of the derigible built by Count Zeppelin at Fort Snelling in the early sixties.

In an article entitled "Power in the Forest," appearing in the *Conservation Volunteer* for May, J. C. Ryan calls attention to the end of an era in the history of Minnesota lumbering, marked by the dismantling in 1941 of the last logging railroad in the state. This was the Duluth and Northeastern Railroad, which the author describes as the last Minnesota road "that depended entirely on the logging industry for its existence." Some of the other railroads built in northern Minnesota for logging purposes are listed by the author, who also describes the equipment and

methods used in railroad logging. His brief article deals with a neglected aspect of an important Minnesota industry.

The smallpox epidemic that raged in the lumber camps of northern Minnesota in 1883 is recalled in the *Grand Rapids Herald-Review* for April 21, where the column entitled "Up in This Neck of the Woods" is devoted to the subject. Special attention is given to the efforts of Samuel P. Rogers, who was running a camp on the Big Fork River, to keep the epidemic under control by preventing lumberjacks from visiting the settlements in the vicinity. In the same column for June 23, some of the unusual equipment used by loggers in the border lake country is discussed. The "log driving alligator," which is "operated almost entirely in the Ontario woodlands," is described in some detail.

Subjects for books about *The Timbered Border* of northern Minnesota that remain to be written are suggested by L. A. Rossman, a member of the executive council of the Minnesota Historical Society, in a recently published pamphlet (Grand Rapids, 1942. 11 p.). He outlines some of the possibilities in the stories of iron mining, of timber and the lumber industry, and of the Rainy Lake gold rush.

Material of local historical interest is occasionally woven into the narratives that Mr. George L. Peterson publishes in the *Minneapolis Tribune* under the general heading of "Northwest Passage." In the issue for April 11, he retells the story of the Mountain Iron mine, the scene of the Merritts' ore discovery of 1890, which has now been reopened after thirty-four years of inactivity. Niagara Cave at Harmony and "Our Own Unknown 'Ozarks'" in Houston County are the subjects of sketches published in the issues for May 12 and 14. An article on the Paul Bunyan legends, published on March 21, reopened an old controversy about the authenticity of the tales as native American folklore. It brought replies in the form of communications from Mr. W. B. Laughead of Westwood, California, who was responsible for the earliest publication of the tales, and from Mr. W. E. Harrington of Minneapolis. Both writers supply evidence pointing to the early origin of the legends in the lumber camps. Their letters appear in the issues of the *Tribune* for April 11 and 18.

The world into which Governor Harold Stassen was born in April, 1907, and the changing scenes that he has witnessed were described in some detail by President Walter C. Coffey of the University of Minnesota at a farewell dinner accorded the governor on April 26, just before he

reported for active duty as a lieutenant commander in the United States Naval Reserve. The connections between local and world events were stressed by Dr. Coffey throughout his address, a condensed version of which appears under the title "Headlines and History" in the *Minnesota Alumnus* for May.

The United States Maritime Commission has announced that a merchant ship launched on the Pacific coast on June 9 was named the "Governor John A. Johnson" in honor of one of Minnesota's most widely known chief executives.

One of Minnesota's historic houses, now owned by Mr. and Mrs. Charles E. Keiwe, is the subject of an article in the June number of *Northwest Life*. Overlooking the junction of the Rum and Mississippi rivers at Anoka, the house was built before the Civil War by a Dr. Shaw.

WAR HISTORY ACTIVITIES

What the use of the microfilm will mean to the future historian of the Second World War is explained by Kenneth R. Shaffer in the *Saturday Review of Literature* for February 20, where he attempts to answer the question "Can Historians Keep Up with the War?" The writer explains the advantages of the microfilm process, by which "material of the greatest bulk is reduced to a few compact reels of film," with a consequent release of storage space and reduction of handling costs. "The economy of microfilm," he continues, "makes it particularly suitable for the vast bulk of records of marginal value" produced by both governmental and private agencies in the present conflict — records that "will be of historical importance for centuries hence." He discusses also the role of archival institutions and libraries in preserving war records, and he describes some of the unusual types of materials included in the collection of war literature of the Yale University library.

Dr. Solon J. Buck, a former superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society who is now archivist of the United States, and Dr. Guy Stanton Ford, who served until recently as president of the University of Minnesota, are members of a committee that is making plans for a national war history commission. Plans for this independent federal agency responsible to the President are described in the *State and Local History News* for March.

Under the title "War History and War Records," the *Indiana History Bulletin* for February surveys the war records collecting agencies in other states, including Minnesota. Items that should be assembled by those engaged in "War History Work" are listed in the April number.

The many types of materials that will be useful for the historian of the present war are suggested in a leaflet recently issued by the Ohio War History Commission. In addition to letters, diaries, pictures, government archives, and the like, it lists such materials as records relating to religious and social organizations, to conscientious objectors, and to public health. It should serve as a suggestive guide to individuals and groups engaged in collecting local records.

The Pennsylvania Historical Commission has published, under the direction of Sylvester K. Stevens, state historian, a pamphlet entitled *Pennsylvania's First Year at War* (100 p.). It covers the period from December 7, 1941, to December 7, 1942.

A useful *War Records Manual* (1943. 16 p.) has been published in mimeographed form by the Wisconsin War Records Commission. It contains concrete directions for the setting up of county war records committees, and presents many useful suggestions about the types of materials that should be assembled and preserved, about the arrangement and indexing of collections, and about the making of inventories of local war records.

An institute for the discussion of problems connected with the "Citizen's War at Home" was held at the University of Minnesota from April 1 to 3. It was arranged and sponsored by the Minnesota Office of Civilian Defense, and was designed to assist the heads of local defense councils in the state. Wisconsin, North and South Dakota, and Minnesota were represented at a regional institute held under the auspices of the American Library Association at the University of Minnesota on April 9 and 10. Special problems confronting the librarian in wartime were discussed.

The fact that the "historian of this war will need factual materials of all kinds, records of 'history in the making' set down at the moment and preserved intact" is stressed in an editorial on "Minnesota War History" appearing in the *St. Paul Dispatch* for April 13. To emphasize the need for the preservation of such records, the writer points out that "inquiries right now about what happened a week ago, a month ago or a year ago

in this war can only be answered or verified by reference to the record which somebody at the time had the forethought to make and save." He commends the Minnesota War History Committee, which with the co-operation of the Minnesota Historical Society, "has been working to keep a running record of the progress of the state's efforts in the war and the effects of the war upon the state and its citizens."

Since the 1943 legislature failed to appropriate funds for the War History Committee as an agency of the Office of Civilian Defense, the committee's collecting activities have been taken over by the Minnesota Historical Society. The latter organization also will direct the work of the scores of local war history committees existing in counties and communities throughout Minnesota.

The University of Minnesota is compiling a list of students, particularly undergraduates, who leave their studies for service with the armed forces. All individuals who leave the university under these circumstances are issued certificates showing that they were in good standing at the time of departure.

War history committees were organized and chairmen were named in eight additional counties during the period from April 1 to June 30. They bring the total number of county and community committees operating in the state to ninety-four. The names of the newly organized counties and their chairmen follow: Aitkin County, Mrs. Lyle E. Johnson of Aitkin; Chisago County, Elias Nordgren of North Branch; Cook County, Adolph Toftey of Grand Marais; Dodge County, Dana Hinckley of Claremont; Lake County, Helen Thoreen of Two Harbors; Nicollet County, Conrad Peterson of St. Peter; Pine County, Mrs. Edythe M. Robinson of Pine City; and Stevens County, Mrs. Clayton A. Gay of Morris.

Letters from local men who are serving with the armed forces appear regularly in many Minnesota newspapers, including the *Hansa Herald*. In the issue of May 7, for example, are letters from men stationed in Yakima, Washington, "somewhere in the Southwest Pacific," and in Africa.

An appeal for letters, printed items, pictures, and other material reflecting Ramsey County's participation in the Second World War appears under the title "County Seeks War Records for History Compilation" in the *St. Paul Dispatch* for June 22. Individuals who have such items are asked to send them to the Ramsey County War History Committee in

order that they might become "part of the permanent historical records of the county after the war."

News items about the activities of the Victory Aides and other war organizations in Hibbing are to be found in the *Victory Aider*, a leaflet issued monthly in mimeographed form by the Hibbing Citizens' Service Corps. Mrs. O. H. Peterson is the editor.

Names of alumni of the Madelia High School who served in the Spanish-American and First World wars and who are now in the armed services of the Second World War are listed in a "souvenir program" issued in connection with the fifty-second annual meeting of the high school alumni association on June 1.

LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

The Goodhue County Historical Society has issued an appeal for photographs of local men and women who are serving with the nation's armed forces. The society hopes to build up a complete pictorial record of the participation of its residents in the Second World War. Items from the society's collections occasionally are used as the basis for articles published under the title "Historical Potpourri" in various county newspapers. For example, information drawn from a household account book of pioneer days appears in the *Kenyon Leader* for May 7.

Dr. Grace Lee Nute, curator of manuscripts for the Minnesota Historical Society, was the principal speaker at the annual meeting of the Hennepin County Historical Society, which was held in Richfield, a suburb of Minneapolis, on April 13. She took as her subject the "Fur Trade and Fur Traders" of the Northwest, giving special attention to the traders of the British period. In order to insure the permanency of its museum collections and to encourage individuals to make bequests in its name, the Hennepin County society has been incorporated. Members were given an opportunity to vote on the question of incorporation at the annual summer outing, which was held at Minnehaha Park on June 19. The program on that occasion included talks on the geology of the Minnehaha Falls area by Professor Frank F. Grout of the University of Minnesota, and on "Minnehaha Park and the Park Board" by Charles Doell. In accordance with a plan to make its collections more readily available in wartime, the society has arranged a number of displays in the windows of Minneapolis business concerns. Three such exhibits, consisting

of old firearms, early maps of Minneapolis, and the surveyor's instrument used by Charles W. Christmas, are described in the *Robbinsdale Post* for April 15. In addition, a traveling exhibit consisting chiefly of typical pioneer objects, has been taken to schools and club meetings by the director of the society's museum, Mr. Edward A. Blomfield, who presents a brief explanatory talk.

Four members of the board of directors of the Kandiyohi County Historical Society were elected at the organization's annual meeting, which was held at Willmar on June 15. They are G. Elmer Johnson of Mamre, John W. Wagner of Raymond, and Victor Lawson and John Kleberg of Willmar. The program included talks and addresses by Martin Leaf, Judge Nels Swenson, and Senator Harry L. Wahlstrand.

An interesting recent addition to the collections of the Martin County Historical Society is an enormous card, measuring fourteen by eighteen inches, issued in 1876 to advertise Fairmont's principal business concerns. It has been presented by Mr. Joseph Blaisdell of Minot, North Dakota, whose father, Humphrey M. Blaisdell, was a pioneer lawyer at Fairmont. The card, which was designed for display in hotels and other public places, is the subject of a detailed article in the *Fairmont Daily Sentinel* for June 12.

Some recent acquisitions of the Polk County Historical Society are listed in an article, in the *Crookston Daily Times* for April 10, describing the growth of its museum, which is located in the courthouse at Crookston. The museum is open to the public every afternoon from Monday through Friday, with Mrs. Bert Levins, the society's secretary, in charge. Students are invited to make use of the collections, which include bound volumes of a local newspaper and of the publications of the Minnesota Historical Society.

"Men and Attitudes in the Early History of St. Olaf College" was the title of an address presented by Professor Theodore Jorgenson of the school's history department before a meeting of the Rice County Historical Society on May 11. It was held in the new library building on the St. Olaf College campus in Northfield. The second speaker on the program, Professor Kenneth Bjork, reviewed the activities of the Norwegian-American Historical Association and told of its archives, which are located in the new library. Dr. Jorgenson's paper appears in installments in

the *Faribault Daily News* from May 17 to 20, and in the *Northfield Independent* for June 17 and 24.

Officers of the Roseau County Historical Society, elected at the annual meeting held in Roseau on June 24, include Louis Enstrom, president, Jacob Snustad, secretary, C. B. Dahlquist, treasurer, and P. O. Fryklund, curator. Plans for a history of the county, now in preparation, were announced.

The history of the little German settlement of Charlottenburg, which in time became part of Stillwater, was reviewed by the Reverend A. C. Ernst in a talk presented before the Washington County Historical Society on June 3. The large and interested audience included descendants of several of the early settlers of the community, which centered about a sawmill built by Frederick Schulenburg. The chairman of the society's membership committee, Mrs. E. M. Mosier, reported that more than forty people had joined the society recently. Miss Annie Connors, who reported for the museum committee, announced that the society's museum would soon open for the summer, and that three rooms in the building had been taken over by groups of women who would furnish and maintain them.

Some recent additions to the collections of the Watonwan County Historical Society are described in the *St. James Plaindealer* for June 17. Among them are several photograph albums filled with portraits of pioneer residents of the county. These, according to Mr. George S. Hage, president of the society, were "rescued from a bonfire." He makes an appeal to families and individuals to consult with some member of the historical society or with the county librarian before destroying letters, books, newspapers, or other items that might be stored in their attics or barns.

Plans to open the museum of the Waseca County Historical Society on Saturday afternoons during the summer months were made at a meeting held in Waseca on April 5. A brief sketch of the history of the society appears in the *Waseca Herald* for April 1.

Letters, documents, pictures, and other items reflecting H. C. Garvin's part in the development of the parks and highways of Winona have been added to the collections of the Winona County Historical Society by

Mr. William Codman. This recent gift is one of a large number listed in the *Winona Republican-Herald* for May 12. The museum is located on the campus of the Winona State Teachers College.

LOCAL HISTORY ITEMS

A manuscript "Report of the Business Men of Mankato, South Bend, and Winnebago Indian Agency, Minnesota Territory," prepared by a Mankato law firm in 1857, is the basis for an informing article by Frank Franciscus in the *Mankato Free Press* for April 6. John A. Willard and Sheldon F. Barney drew up the report for R. B. Dun and Company of New York; a copy retained by Willard is now owned by his son, Mr. W. D. Willard of Mankato. The items published in the *Free Press* indicate that the report is rich in information on pioneer business conditions in the Minnesota Valley.

The historical value of local newspaper files is stressed by L. W. Spicer in an article entitled "Our Local Newspapers Have Recorded Our History from the Earliest Pioneer Days," which appears in the *Evening Tribune* of Albert Lea for May 7. Files in the possession of the Albert Lea Public Library, the *Tribune*, and the Minnesota Historical Society have been consulted by the author in preparing this article. His article might well serve as a bibliography of Freeborn County newspapers, and as a guide to material on the editors and publishers who produced them.

Among the articles included by C. A. Rasmussen in his column entitled "An Historical Potpourri," which appears regularly in the *Red Wing Republican Eagle* and a number of other Goodhue County newspapers, is one of special interest on "Early Grain Marketing." It appears in the issue of June 4. It presents some recollections of the late M. S. Urevig of Leon, who told the writer that he "made 11 trips to Red Wing with a yoke of oxen, hauling wheat" in the fall of 1867, and that it took him a day and two nights to make each trip of twenty-eight miles. The route followed and the methods of travel are described in some detail. The story of the Zumbrota library, which is given credit for being the "first public library in Goodhue county," is related in the issue for May 15.

Some extracts from an address by Judge W. H. Goetzinger in which he tells of "Early Explorers and Settlers on Pelican Lake" appear in the *Ashby Review* for May 13. Included are notes on Red River ox cart

trains and stage lines that passed through Grant County in pioneer days, on some of the county's early settlers, on the problem of selecting a county seat, and on the organization of local government.

A contest sponsored by a local woman's club resulted in the writing of the "History of Ogilvie" which appears in installments in the *Ogilvie Sentinel* from April 1 to 22. The authors, Betty Brettingen, Dorothy Lomker, and Joyce Haydnet, were awarded first prize for their narrative. It reviews the story of a Kanabec County village that evolved from a logging center on the Groundhouse River.

Recollections of life in Dassel, recorded by Oscar E. Lindquist and originally published in the *Dassel Dispatch* (see *ante*, 22:446), have been reprinted in a booklet entitled *Those Were the Days* (32 p.). In addition to the usual array of "firsts," biographical notes on early residents, records of churches, and the like, Mr. Lindquist presents some bits of social and business history of more than ordinary interest and value. In this category may be placed a list of traveling men who made regular visits to Dassel in the 1890's with the names of the firms they represented. The drummers went to Dassel by rail, and after calling on the merchants there "used the livery for the inland stores," Mr. Lindquist recalls. He asserts that local merchants received "from three to fifteen of these welcome salesmen every day."

The history of the First State Bank of Le Roy, which completed fifty years of community service on May 2, is outlined in the *Le Roy Independent* for May 21.

The Perley Co-operative Creamery Association of Norman County is the subject of a historical sketch in the *Norman County Index* of Ada for April 8. The association, which began operations in the spring of 1892 as the Lee Co-operative Creamery, has contributed substantially to the development of dairying in northern Minnesota.

A pioneer St. Paul business concern, the Ramaley Printing Company, commemorates in 1943 the eightieth anniversary of its founding by publishing an attractive booklet in which its history is reviewed and the career of its founder, David Ramaley, is sketched. The printing firm is not the only enterprise inaugurated by Ramaley that persists to the present, for in 1868 he joined H. P. Hall in establishing the *St. Paul Dispatch*. Mentioned also in the booklet are the men who now control the

affairs of the printing business, including Mr. Henry J. Crepeau, its president. The modern equipment now used by the firm also is described.

One result of the interest in community backgrounds that has been prompted by the Stillwater centennial is a narrative entitled "The Story of Stillwater," which has been appearing in installments in the *Stillwater Daily Gazette* since May 10. It goes back to Joseph R. Brown's town of Dakotah and to the founding in 1843 of the Stillwater Lumber Company.



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