

# MINNESOTA HISTORY

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## An Announcement to Readers of "Minnesota History"

### *From the President of the Minnesota Historical Society*

THE Minnesota Historical Society is fortunate in being able to announce that Mr. Ralph J. Mather of St. Paul has accepted an appointment as chairman of the membership and publicity committees of the society. I am confident that his contribution of time, effort, and ability to the society will be of lasting value not only to the state of Minnesota, but to historians and other scholars throughout the nation. All members of the society and readers of its publications, I am sure, will be anxious to co-operate with Mr. Mather in his efforts on behalf of the society.

KENNETH G. BRILL

### *From the Acting Superintendent*

EARLY in 1945 the Minnesota Historical Society had only 1,600 members — one for every 1,700 inhabitants of the state. For an organization that will celebrate its centennial four years hence, this is a meager ratio. That it should be radically changed is the belief of the society's president and other officers.

They feel that if the people of Minnesota know what the society does and what it has to offer, its membership will be much larger. For the annual dues of \$3.00, members receive the society's quarterly, *Minnesota History*, and they may from time to time receive other publications or the privilege of purchasing them at liberal discounts. In addition they become affiliated with the oldest institution in the state

—an institution that has been spreading information about Minnesota throughout the state and the nation for almost a century.

Mr. Mather has accepted the chairmanship of the society's membership and publicity committees because he believes that an enlarged organization will be of wider service to the people of the state. Invite your friends to join the society in 1945 in order that they may enjoy the centennial benefits that are planned for the next four years.

LEWIS BEESON

*From the Chairman of the Membership and Publicity  
Committees*

MINNESOTA is fortunate in having a historical society with an interesting museum, a splendid library, a great manuscript collection, and a competent and scholarly staff in the Historical Building, St. Paul. Though the society's work is widely known, unfortunately too few of the state's citizens are acquainted with its activities.

Won't you help make the society better known by asking your friends to join it at the nominal cost of \$3.00 for annual membership? Just fill out the coupon on the slip that accompanies this issue of *Minnesota History* or use your own letter, enclosing a check made out to the society.

And here is a pleasant and effective suggestion — do your Christmas shopping by presenting memberships in the society to your friends. Letters announcing your gifts, together with membership certificates, will be sent by the society to anyone you may wish to favor in this manner.

Ask your friends to join the society now. If their memberships are received before October 20, their names will be included in a roster of the society's members that will be published in the December issue of *Minnesota History*.

RALPH J. MATHER

## Reviews of Books

*Names on the Land: A Historical Account of Place-Naming in the United States.* By GEORGE R. STEWART. (New York, Random House, 1945. ix, 418 p. \$3.00.)

This is the story of "how the great names, one by one, came to stand large on the maps, and how the little names in their thousands arose on the tongues of the people, after the varying customs of time and place, of blood and language." It is in no sense a gazetteer, but rather a history of the process of naming places in the United States during more than four centuries. The scope of the book would overwhelm an author less able than Mr. Stewart; and the mass of detailed information that he has gathered is amazing. His broad background and skillful pen make the subject of place names—their associations, the stories they tell—one of rare enchantment.

Our place names, "closely bound with the land itself and the adventures of the people," are the guideposts of our history, the vestiges of those, the great and the small, who have built our civilization. There is our great heritage of Indian names, "twenty-six states, eighteen of the greatest cities, most of the larger lakes and longer rivers, a few of the highest mountains, and thousands of smaller towns and natural features." Florida, Appalachian, California, Colorado, Sante Fe tell of Spanish explorations. The French left behind them such names as St. Lawrence, Louisiana, Detroit, Fond du Lac, Racine, Prairie du Chien, Lac qui Parle, Eau Claire, Pomme de Terre, Grand Marais, and many others. "But more than by all the names given one by one," writes Mr. Stewart, "the French changed our heritage by leaving new general terms," words like "portage," "rapids," "prairie," and "bayou." The English, who "came late, but stayed longest," gave their language to the land, and, of course, placed scores of names, large and small, on the map—Virginia, Georgia, New England, New York, Delaware, Baltimore, to mention but a few. The Dutch, the Swedes, the Germans—nearly all the peoples of the Old World—enriched our map with their names, giving it "that never monotonous pattern of names of many languages which, with its evidence of toleration," in Mr. Stewart's opinion, "is a chief glory of our heritage."

The author tells how many of the earlier names were made over by those who came later, "sometimes from mere ignorance, sometimes doubtless for humor": how Indian names, with sounds unknown to English ears, became quite different on English tongues, sometimes, by the process of folk-etymology, emerging in such ludicrous forms as Ticklenaked, Rockawalking, Longacoming, Neversink; how the Dutch *tarwe* ("wheat") became Tarrytown, *Vlissingen* became Flushing, and *De Bouwerij* ("the farm") became the Bowery; and how the French *Marais Salin* ("salt pool") became Marie Saline, *Terre Noire* ("black earth") became Turnwall, and *Mauvaise Terre* ("bad earth") became Movestar, "and doubtless children are already calling it Movie Star."

Mr. Stewart discusses the classical names that appeared on the map in great numbers during the classical revival following the Revolution — Troy, Rome, Sparta, Cicero, Utica, and the like — and he has this to say in their defense: "The classical interests of the later eighteenth century are as much a part of the history of the United States as the existence of the Indian tribes or the Revolution. To maintain, as many have done, that Rome and Troy are mere excrescences on our map, is to commit the fallacy of denying one part of history in favor of another — or else is to be ignorant of history."

*Names on the Land* reveals how nineteenth-century Americans were influenced by Scott, Burns, and Cooper, and how they loved names for "mellifluous sounds, a vague poetic exhalation," which found expression in names like Auburn and combinations of dale, glen, vale, hurst, mere, mede, wood, and fair. It tells of the work of the government surveyors in giving and recording names, of the influence of the post-office department, Congress, and the railroads, and of the work of the United States Board on Geographical Names. It describes the methods of naming the states, and how the patterns of our street names came about. It mentions the "honest folk names . . . often repeated" — names of description, of incidents of travel and settlement, and of ownership — such names as Spectacle Lake, Big Creek, Crooked Creek, Dead Indian Creek, Notimber Creek, Bridger's Butte; the "lost and found names" given by emigrants for articles lost and later recovered — Knife Creek, Pipe, Pistol, Hat; and the hero names — Lincoln, Washington, Knox, Lafayette, Jackson, Decatur. It shows how the suffixes -burgh, -ville, -town, -field, and -port spread over the land. These and every other conceivable aspect of his fascinating subject are expertly treated by Mr. Stewart, and in great detail.

In a chapter entitled "Melodrama in the Forties," Mr. Stewart writes: "In this decade the frontier, aided by steamboat transportation, advanced rapidly along the upper Mississippi. Whether because of the prevailing spirit of melodrama or some other reason, all the great names of that region arose by devious and unusual processes." With this introduction he proceeds to discuss the naming of Lake Itasca (mistakenly claiming that the name was changed from Elk Lake), St. Paul, and Minnesota. "The controversy over Minnesota," he writes, "was a critical point in the history of state-naming. The Indian-river tradition was still strong, but for the first time Congress had shown an inclination to take a hand. Moreover, the care about the spelling of the word indicated that the old easy-going period was coming to an end." Elsewhere in the book he also describes the naming of Duluth, Minneapolis, and Minnehaha Falls.

MARY W. BERTHEL

*Pine, Stream & Prairie: Wisconsin and Minnesota in Profile.* By JAMES GRAY. (New York, Alfred A. Knopf, 1945. xi, 312, x p. Map, illustrations. \$3.50.)

There are a good many reasons why this volume of James Gray's on Wisconsin and Minnesota is in a class by itself. One important reason is that there is probably no other person who has considered intelligently so many aspects of the past and present life in the two states. Another reason is that it takes a critic and an imaginative novelist to present the material as he has done, with great interest in the character of individuals who have been responsible for the development of the country, and yet without hero worship or contempt. But the chief cause for the book's great and special value is that Mr. Gray starts from the belief that "Wisconsin and Minnesota might well become a sort of sociological laboratory for the study of the development of a culture." So he states in his first chapter, and then he himself goes to work in the laboratory and presents us with the result of his research.

It is neither a history nor a guidebook. It proceeds along those new lines which are prompting courses of study on cities in some colleges, the theory being that if one studies a city thoroughly one will understand many elements of civilization which are usually taught too separately. The plan of this book is exciting. It not only considers the geography and the people — these rather briefly — but goes on to deal in successive sections with "Work," "Thought," "The Arts," "Play," and "Social Life."

Most readers will play favorites in reading the book and find some parts more interesting and stimulating than others. There is one chapter titled "Voices in a Quiet Room" which discusses six creative thinkers of Wisconsin and Minnesota with so much originality and profundity that it deserves, to my own thinking, much rereading.

The book is full of names. There are well-known names and inconsequent ones—those with publicity value along with the names of people who have rarely been in print before. The men who built up the milling industry, Elsa Jemne, who decorated the walls of the Ely Post Office with murals, Scott Fitzgerald, and Floyd Olson—are all here, not in enumeration but in evaluation. It is a background which will be useful to the politician and the businessman, and a source of pride, in the most exact sense of those words, to the average citizen of these states. It is a good book to give to those who do not know or understand Minnesota or Wisconsin. So first of all it should come into the possession of as many citizens of these two states as possible. Very few of us have such extensive knowledge of our own region as is encompassed in *Pine, Stream & Prairie*, and still fewer of us in this territory are able to survey our own background with so much affection and so little sentimentality. Since Mr. Gray can, there must be more novels for him to write.

MARGARET CULKIN BANNING

*A Long Pull from Stavanger: The Reminiscences of a Norwegian Immigrant.* By BIRGER OSLAND. (Northfield, Minnesota, Norwegian-American Historical Association, 1945. viii, 263 p. Portrait, \$2.50.)

Birger Osland emigrated from Norway to the United States in 1888, and his career in Chicago, which started with a capital of six dollars and culminated in successful investment banking, is a not unusual immigrant American success story. Were that all, there would be no occasion for publication at book length of his reminiscences. In addition to his business activities, however, Mr. Osland has found time to participate prominently in the Norwegian-American group's social and cultural life in Chicago and the Middle West. He possesses unusual powers of observation and displays surprising insight into Norwegian-American character. This volume is essentially, therefore, a book of reminiscences and observations by a successful Norwegian-American businessman on his relationships with the Norwegians in America and in Norway.

The book starts with a brief account of his youth in Stavanger, his

emigration to America, and his first jobs in Chicago. There follows much material on the activities of the Norwegians in Chicago, which is in interesting contrast to the life of most of the Norwegian immigrants who settled in rural areas. Three chapters on Mr. Osland's role in financing the Norwegian-America Line constitute a significant contribution to American economic history. In the First World War, the author served as American military attaché in Christiania, Norway, and he relates his experiences there. His leading part in the organization of the Century of Progress exposition in Chicago is described with special reference to Norwegian representation at the fair. Mr. Osland was one of the founders of the Norwegian-American Historical Association, and two chapters are appropriately devoted to this important work. Accounts of the visit to America of the Norwegian crown prince and princess in 1939 and of his own visit to Norway in 1938 conclude the volume.

The book is edited by Theodore C. Blegen for the Norwegian-American Historical Association and gives evidence on every page of his customary superior workmanship.

CARLTON C. QUALEY

# Minnesota Historical Society Notes

PLANS FOR the organization of a junior historical society, with chapters throughout the state, have been formulated by the society. Suggestions for organizing a chapter soon will be mailed to superintendents and to teachers of history in various localities. Schools that are annual institutional members of the society are entitled to organize chapters. Upon organization, chapters will pay a registration fee of \$2.00 to the Minnesota Historical Society, and thereafter they will pay an annual fee of \$1.00. Junior historians will be given the opportunity to participate in activities, including an essay contest, for which awards will be offered. The awards will vary in character from a book about some phase of Minnesota history to a scholarship in the University of Minnesota, and will range in value from \$1.00 to \$75.00. The best essays will be considered for publication in *Minnesota History* and elsewhere. The quarterly will print news items about the activities of the new organization.

In a specially arranged ceremony at the Radisson Hotel in Minneapolis on June 4, the Twin Cities Waves and Spars Mothers Club presented to the society two service flags on which are embroidered the names of 1,300 Waves and 200 Spars from Minnesota. The flags, which were formally presented by the president of the club, Mrs. Louis F. Shaw, were accepted on behalf of the society by one of its vice-presidents, Mr. Bergmann Richards of Minneapolis. The flags are now on display in the Historical Building.

Large hand-lettered cards inviting servicemen to visit the Historical Building while in St. Paul have been posted in the Red Cross canteen at the St. Paul Union Depot and in the servicemen's centers conducted by the USO and the Masonic Order in St. Paul.

Professor Stith Thompson's article on "Folklore and Minnesota History," published in the June issue of this magazine, is mentioned favorably by James Gray in his column in the *St. Paul Dispatch* for June 29. Under the heading, "Footnotes to History: Notes on the Preservation of Folk Ways," Mr. Gray announces the revival of the Fourth of July parade at Marine, and explains how this century-old community on the St. Croix has become a "center for the preservation of our traditions, for



the nourishment and cultivation of our folklore." Mr. Gray demonstrates that this celebration ties up with Professor Thompson's theme and with the aims of the Minnesota Folk Arts Foundation, organized last year with the co-operation of the Minnesota Historical Society. A short passage from Professor Thompson's article is quoted on the editorial page of the *Minneapolis Tribune* for July 6.

"A letter from the Minnesota Historical Society informs us that their two series of 'Pictorial Minnesota' were gotten out after reading of our experiment in using our magazine cuts for reprints of illustrations," reads an editorial comment in the July issue of the *Historical Review of Berks County*, published at Reading, Pennsylvania. The editor points with pride to the fact "that a great state society has followed our example." Valuable suggestions for *Pictorial Minnesota* were drawn from an account of the Berks County society's *Visual Aids for Schools*.

The descriptive account of the museum of the Lake Pepin Valley Historical Society's museum at Lake City, which is published in the June issue of this magazine (*ante*, p. 176-178), is reprinted in the *Lake City Graphic* for June 21. The report on the Kandiyohi County Historical Society's museum at Willmar, which appears in the March issue (*ante*, p. 86-88), is reprinted in the *Willmar Daily Tribune* for April 28. With the latter article is a view of the "Old Settlers' Memorial Cabin" in which the museum is housed.

Among the twenty-six members who joined the society during the three months from April 1 to June 30 are three life members, Mrs. Frederick G. Atkinson of Minneapolis, Laird Bell of Winnetka, Illinois, and Roy H. Bjorkman of Minneapolis. In the same period, one sustaining member, Mrs. Elbert L. Carpenter of Minneapolis, and the following annual members were enrolled: Harold Baker of Renville, Mrs. Barbara B. Beckjord of Minneapolis, Alice C. Brill of St. Paul, Edith Brill of St. Paul, Richard H. Brill of Spokane, Washington, Hanford F. Cox of Cloquet, Mrs. John S. Dalrymple of Minneapolis, Mrs. J. H. Daunt, Jr., of Minneapolis, Katherine J. Everts of Brattleboro, Vermont, Daniel F. Foley of Minneapolis, Edward Freeman of Virginia, Mary E. Heffelfinger of Wayzata, Matthew M. Joyce of Minneapolis, Dr. Bernhardt J. Kleven of Minneapolis, Thomas D. McMahon of White Bear Lake, Clarence S. McReynolds of Clearbrook, Hale W. Manuel of Wichita, Kansas, Gunnar H. Nordbye of Minneapolis, Chester M. Oehler of Chi-

cago, Elmer H. Smith of Minneapolis, Dr. Fred P. Strathern of St. Peter, and T. W. Tweed of Toronto, Ontario.

The deaths of the following active members were reported to the society during the second quarter of 1945: Oscar L. Mather of Madison Lake, Dr. Clifford I. Oliver of Graceville, Dr. William G. Paradis of Crookston, William M. Prindle of Duluth, Frank E. Putnam of Blue Earth, and Augustus H. Shearer of Buffalo, New York.

Dr. Beeson is serving as a member of the committee on archival research of the Society of American Archivists. The committee will undertake to stimulate the preparation of articles to be submitted for publication in the society's quarterly periodical, the *American Archivist*. Appropriate manuscripts may be sent to Mr. Beeson in the care of the Minnesota Historical Society.

Dr. Nute appeared as an expert witness for the state in the district court at Duluth on June 12, in connection with a suit involving the title to a bed of iron ore under Syracuse Lake. Whether the lake was navigable and was used as part of a fur traders' route was among the questions raised by the suit. Certain books and maps from the society's collection were presented in the courtroom and were identified by Miss Fawcett as the property of the society.

"A Profile Sketch" of Miss Nute by Marge Dixon appears in the magazine section of the *Duluth News-Tribune* for May 27. Emphasis is given to the books resulting from her research on the history of the Arrowhead country, especially a work on the Mesabi mining operations now in preparation.

Miss Nute has completed her work on the two-volume calendar of American Fur Company Papers which the American Historical Association is publishing (see *ante*, p. 63). The volumes are now in press. In the June issue of the *Beaver*, which commemorates the 275th anniversary of the Hudson's Bay Company, Miss Nute is represented by an article on "Radisson and Des Groseilliers." She is the author of an article about "A Bird-loving Taxidermist of the 1890's," Ernest L. Brown of Warren, appearing in the *Conservation Volunteer* for May-June, and of a short sketch of state history published under the title "This Is Minnesota" in the 1945 *Minnesota Resort and Travel Guide*. Miss Nute's work on her history of the Minnesota iron mines has been forwarded as

the result of a leave of absence from her duties as curator of manuscripts from June 15 to September 15.

"A Forthcoming Biography of Ola Månsson and His Son, Congressman Charles A. Lindbergh" and "The Diaries of a Swedish-American Farmer, Andrew Peterson" are the titles of articles contributed by Miss Nute to the *Yearbook* for 1945 of the American Institute of Swedish Arts, Literature, and Science of Minneapolis (171 p.). Based largely upon manuscripts preserved by the society is a sketch, in the same volume, of "Charles F. Johnson of Duluth" by Helen M. White. One of four "Pioneer Collections" described in the work is that displayed in the "Cokato Museum." The account presented is based upon one published *ante*, 21:440-442. A review of the *Yearbook* will appear in a future issue of this magazine.

Miss Eileen Longbotham, who had served as stenographer in the manuscript division during the past two years, was transferred to the general office on June 1, taking the place of Miss Helen Carlson. Miss Catherine Flinspach was appointed to the position left vacant in the manuscript division.

A program arranged by members of the staff of the society was presented before a meeting of the Club Montparnasse of St. Paul in the auditorium of the Historical Building on May 28. An illustrated talk on "Early St. Paul" was presented by Mr. Babcock, and the autograph collection of William H. Amerland of Wabasha, recently acquired by the society, was displayed and described by Miss Nute. Some early operatic recordings from the society's record collection were played on a phonograph of a type in use some twenty-five years ago. Two groups composed of members of the St. Paul International Institute's citizenship classes met recently in the society's auditorium. The first, on the afternoon of May 31, heard a talk by Mr. Babcock on "Early Minnesota and the Minnesota Historical Society." For the second, on the evening of June 5, Mr. Babcock gave an illustrated talk on "The Making of Minnesota." Some thirty members of the Cosmopolitan Club of the University of Minnesota visited the society's building on June 2 and heard the acting superintendent describe its activities.

Half a dozen talks and addresses were presented outside the Historical Building by members of the society's staff during the second

quarter of 1945. Mr. Beeson spoke on "Minnesota and Its History" before the Minnesota Dames on the campus of the University of Minnesota on May 12; he explained the work and functions of the society in an address before the Executives' Club of St. Paul on May 28; and he recounted some "Traditions of the St. Croix" before a Youth Hostel group at White Bear Lake on June 24. Methods of collecting material for a local historical society were explained by Miss Nute in a talk before the Douglas County Historical Society at Superior, Wisconsin, on April 26. "The Functions of a Local Historical Society" was the title of a talk presented by Mr. Babcock before the newly organized St. Anthony Park Historical Society of St. Paul on May 20, and he discussed "Pioneering in Minnesota" in an address given before the Polk County Historical Society at Crookston on June 24.

### CONTRIBUTORS

Dr. Lynwood G. Downs, who contributes to the present issue a study of "The Soldier Vote and Minnesota Politics, 1862-65," is a member of the German department in the University of Minnesota. Although he is the author of numerous textbooks of German and articles on linguistics, this is his first publication in the field of history. His interest in the soldier vote of the 1860's was aroused while he was collecting Civil War slang from diaries, newspapers, and narratives of the period in the society's possession.

Miss Lucille B. Emch, associate librarian of the University of Toledo library, was engaged in research on the early western short story when she discovered William Joseph Snelling's "Last of the Iron Hearts." After she had "carefully checked available bibliographies and indexes and failed to find it listed," she decided to reprint the tale with an introduction.

Professor Walter B. Hendrickson, a member of the history faculty of Mac Murray College in Jacksonville, Illinois, is the author of a biography of *David Dale Owen: Pioneer Geologist of the Middle West*, which was published in 1943 as volume 27 of the *Indiana Historical Collections*. He presents herewith a more detailed report of "Owen's Geological Survey of Minnesota" than was possible in the longer study.

Mr. William Randel, instructor of rhetoric in the University of Minnesota, discovered the catalogue of "Edward Eggleston's Library at Traverse des Sioux," printed in the present issue, while gathering material for a biography of the author of the *Hoosier School-Master*.

Miss Helene Alland, who contributes to the series on "Minnesota History and the Schools" a report on "A High School Survey at St. Cloud," is head of the English department in the St. Cloud Technical High School. The suggestions for "Departmental Co-operation in the St. Cloud Survey" which follow Miss Alland's article were formulated by Miss Gertrude Gove of the high school's history faculty. As indicated by Miss Alland, Miss Gove organized and directed the survey described herewith.

Contributing to the book review section of the current issue are Mrs. Margaret Culkin Banning of Duluth, a widely known Minnesota novelist; Mrs. Mary W. Berthel, editorial assistant on the society's staff; and Dr. Carlton C. Qualey, a member of the history faculty of Columbia University.

### ACCESSIONS

Some important papers relating to the career of Senator Henry M. Rice and reflecting the activities of members of his family have been received from the estate of his daughter, the late Mrs. Maurice Auerbach of St. Paul, through the courtesy of Mrs. Mathilde Rice Elliott, Mr. Robert A. Rice, and Mr. Oscar A. Rice, all of St. Paul. Included is a mass of valuable genealogical material about the Rice family. There are also sixty-two items of correspondence for the years from 1824 to 1942, many printed programs and clippings, two ledgers, and a manuscript biography of Senator Rice. Large oil portraits of Senator and Mrs. Rice and daguerreotypes and photographs of members of their family add to the interest of the gift. With it also were a number of museum items, including a pink lusterware bowl, cups and saucers of Chinese Lowestoft, some pieces of Canton ware, a silk quilt, costumes, and accessories.

Nine Civil War commissions issued to Christopher B. Heffelfinger of Minneapolis while serving as a member of Company D, First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and later with the First Heavy Artillery, have been received from his daughter, Miss Mary E. Heffelfinger of Wayzata. They reflect Heffelfinger's advancement from the rank of sergeant to that of major during the years from 1861 to 1865. The gift includes a little account book in which Heffelfinger recorded expenditures and loans in 1863.

Typewritten excerpts from a diary kept by George C. Clapp of Company K, Seventh Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, while serving with the

Sibley expedition of 1863, have been presented by his grandson, Mr. G. Howard Clapp of Kasota. The diarist was a Minnesota pioneer who settled near Kasota in 1853.

Conditions in Sweden in the 1860's and 1870's, an immigrant journey of 1885, and experiences in New York, Illinois, and Minnesota are among the subjects touched upon in a reminiscent narrative written and presented by Mr. Edward Lafot of Lakefield. The manuscript, which bears the title "Lafot Family History," consists of 154 typewritten pages and covers the years from 1860 to 1892. Pioneer life in Jackson County, where the writer settled in 1887, is described in the later portions of the narrative. A number of articles collected in Sweden about 1900, including two brooms made of twigs, a whisk, carved wooden ladles, and a hand-woven basket, also have been received from Mr. Lafot.

"Daggett Brook Sketches" is the title of a reminiscent narrative, filling fifty typewritten pages, which has been presented by the author, Mr. John F. Smart of Silver Hill, Alabama. The narrative, which has its setting in Crow Wing County, opens with the year 1866, when Mr. Smart went there as a lad of fourteen. He relates his own experiences as a cattle herder and a logger, and describes the organization of Daggett Brook Township in 1888. With the narrative is a copy of the minutes of the first town meeting.

The files accumulated in the law office of Benton and Roberts of Mankato from 1881 to 1920 have been presented by Mr. H. W. Roberts of Mankato, a son of a member of the firm. The collection, which comprises sixty-five volumes, consists of letter books, account books, and legal records.

Seven volumes of records of the Minnesota Territorial Pioneers' Association have been presented through the courtesy of Mrs. Jessie W. Porter, its secretary. The collection, which covers the years from 1900 to 1928, consists of two volumes of membership lists, two account books, two scrapbooks of clippings about the association and its members, and a volume containing photographs and records of donors to the organization's log cabin on the Minnesota State Fair Grounds. Because they include information about the dates of arrival in the territory, the birthplaces, the places of residence in Minnesota, and the lives of members, the membership lists are of special value.

The results of a local history project conducted by Miss Sadie Rosenau in an eighth-grade class at Waterville in 1944-45 are embodied in a typewritten booklet presented by Miss Rosenau. It contains some sixty pages of sketches by individual pupils dealing with such topics as the founding of the community, its schools and churches, transportation and communication, business firms, social organizations, and biographies. A similar booklet, dealing with the history of Gaylord and prepared in that community's school in 1941-42, also has been received from Miss Rosenau.

A file of the *Lake Superior News and Mining Journal*, covering much of the period from July 11, 1846, to November 4, 1854, has been copied for the society by the microfilm process from originals in the possession of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. The paper, which is rich in material about copper mining in the Lake Superior country, was published at Copper Harbor and Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan.

To the society's collection of items relating to the history of the Mississippi panoramas and to the careers of the artists who painted these primitive movies, Miss Edith M. Banvard of St. Paul has added a copy of the French edition of the autobiography of her father, John Banvard. This pamphlet, which was published in Paris in 1850, is entitled *Banvard, ou les aventures d'un artiste* (22 p.). According to an advertisement in the booklet, daily performances of Banvard's panorama were being given in Paris at the time of its publication. Miss Banvard also has presented a genealogical record, which she compiled, tracing the Banvard family in America from 1767 to 1936.

A replica of the "world's first reaper," which was built and tested by Cyrus Hall McCormick in 1831, is the gift of the Minneapolis office of the International Harvester Company. This interesting reminder of the beginnings of American agricultural machinery has been placed on display in the society's museum. With it is an explanation of the mechanism.

An interesting addition to the society's collection of miniature models is a small reproduction of the St. Paul Protestant Orphan Asylum as it appeared in 1885. The model is the gift of Mr. Fred Thomas, executive secretary of the St. Paul Children's Service, which now occupies the building. Nine miniature groups constructed by National Youth Ad-

ministration workers to depict the spirit of Thanksgiving in America have been presented by Mrs. Bernard Druck of St. Paul.

A gateleg table of maple and a dresser dating from about 1860 are the gifts of Mr. Earl W. Mooney of St. Paul. A dress that is said to have been worn at a ball given for Lafayette in 1824 is the gift of Mrs. Sidney Porter and her brother, Mr. W. W. Skinner of St. Paul. Caps and hats used by members of the family of Mrs. R. P. Russell in frontier St. Anthony have been presented by Mrs. H. C. Putney of Los Angeles.

Among recent additions to the society's military collection are a Civil War officer's sabre, belt, and kit bag, presented by Mrs. H. G. Dampier of St. Paul; and a handsome officer's sword that was presented to Colonel W. B. Bend of the Minnesota National Guard in 1884, received from his son, Mr. C. M. Bend of St. Paul. Of later date are a corporal's uniform, overcoat, and gas mask used in the First World War by the late Leslie Miller of St. Paul and presented by his widow; and a collection of German items, including machine guns, a steel lance, a helmet, a gas mask, body armor, and other articles, assembled by the late Edwin Lindell of Minneapolis while serving as a sergeant in the same conflict, received from Mrs. Lindell.

Photographic copies of three pencil sketches by Peter Rindisbacher have been made for the society from originals owned by Mr. C. H. Rindisbacher of Minocqua, Wisconsin. Other interesting pictures recently received include twelve "Pictorial Views in Minnesota," from Mr. Kenneth M. Wright of St. Paul; photographs taken in the offices of Deere and Webber of Minneapolis in the 1880's and 1890's, from Mrs. C. C. Webber of Minneapolis; six views of the Spring Lake mill near the Hastings dam, from the United States Engineers' office in St. Paul; and two large colored prints of Duluth, from the Historical and Philosophical Society of Ohio of Cincinnati. A large oil portrait of Edmund Rice is the gift of Mr. Louis W. Hill, Sr., of St. Paul; and a crayon portrait of U. A. Cady, a Kandiyohi County pioneer, has been presented by Mrs. Alice C. Curtiss of Plainfield, Wisconsin.

An account of the Fisk expedition of 1864, by Willoughby Wells of Brackett's Battalion, telling how the cavalry unit was attacked by Indians in the Badlands and rescued by troops summoned from Fort Rice, is included in a volume of typewritten "Genealogical Records" gath-



ered by the genealogical records committee of the Minnesota Daughters of the American Revolution and recently presented to the society (1945. 127 p.). Other items of Minnesota interest in the volume include a copy of the will of Du Lhut, abstracts of wills filed in Faribault County from 1858 to 1886, and a copy of the vital records of the Pilgrim Congregational Church of Duluth from 1908 to 1928. A volume of "Bible Records," compiled by the same committee, also has been presented by the D.A.R. (183 p.).

A new edition of the *Register* of the Massachusetts Society of the Colonial Dames of America (Boston, 1944. 657 p.) and volume 14 of the *American Genealogical Index*, in which surnames from Geiger to Graves are indexed, have been added to the society's genealogical collection.

A number of Minnesotans, some of whom were pioneers in Houston County, are included in Cora E. Smith's recent volume entitled *Certain Early Ancestors: Genealogies of the Butterfields of Chelmsford, Mass.; of the Parkers of Woburn and Chelmsford, Mass.; of the Hohns of Ontario, Canada; of the Johnsons of Roxbury, Mass.; and of the Heaths of Haverhill, Mass.* (Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1944. 244 p.). Minnesotans also are mentioned briefly in the *Bebb Genealogy* by Herbert Bebb (Chicago, 1944. 69 p.); *William Dixon and His Descendants* by Edward Dixon (Morristown, New Jersey, 1940. 77 p.); *The Name and Family of Fairfield* by T. M. Fairfield (Iowa City, Iowa, 1944. 278 p.); *William Hilton, Pilgrim* by Ethel H. Cook (St. Paul, 1944. 157 p.); and *A Genealogical Register of the McComb Family in America* by P. H. K. McComb (Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, 1942. 331 p.).

Other genealogies received in recent months include: *A Family Tree and a Tribute* by Kathleen W. Amis (Dallas, Texas, 1942. 113 p.); *A History of the Michael Beem Family* by Nelson Beem (Loudonville, Ohio, 1936. 96 p.); *Chronicles of the Boit Family* by Robert A. Boit (Boston, 1915. 252 p.); *The Carr Family of Duplin County* by James O. Carr (Wilmington, North Carolina, 1939. 65 p.); *The Ancestry and Descendants of Ella Louise Cleveland Compton and the Ancestry and Descendants of Richard Jordan Compton* by Mildred C. C. Woods (Chambersburg, Pennsylvania, 1941. 83 p.); *Memorials of Paul Griffith and His Wife Margaret Burden of Nelson, Madison County, N. Y.* by Minnie L. White (Ithaca, New York, 1943. 10 p.); *Ancestry of Carma Erika Jacobsen*, part 2 by Erika S. Jacobsen (Salt Lake City,

1944. 55 p.); *Supplement to the Livezey Family, 1934-1944* by Charles H. Smith (Jenkintown, Pennsylvania, 1945. 55 p.); *The American Ancestors of Margaret Esther Bouton Thom and William John Thom* by Henry E. Riggs (Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1944. 253 p.); *Descendants of Roelof Van Houten of 1638* by Herbert S. Ackerman (Ridgewood, New Jersey, 1945. 236 p.); and *Genealogy of Nancy Compton White's Ancestors and Descendants, 1664-1944* by Perry S. White (Hutchinson, Kansas, 1944. 47 p.).

Among recently acquired local and church histories of interest to genealogists are: *A History of the Town of Morrill in the County of Waldo and State of Maine* by Timothy W. Robinson (Belfast, Maine, 1944. 253 p.); *A Tower of the Lord in the Land of Goshen: A History of the First Presbyterian Church, Goshen, New York* by Mildred P. Seese (Goshen, 1945. 146 p.); and *The History of St. James' Church (Protestant Episcopal) 1744-1944* by H. M. J. Klein and William F. Diller (Lancaster, Pennsylvania, 1944. 347 p.).

L. F.

## News and Comment

"THE BEST way for a community to express its individuality is to draw on its past," according to an editorial on "Local Business and Local History" in the *Indiana History Bulletin* for May. "Business men especially should know something about the origin of the town, the colorful events of its history, the local traditions and legends," the writer advises. He believes that local merchants would find it profitable to "indicate to the visitor through their advertising and decorating some of those episodes and stories," for a "town's history is its very own; it belongs to no other place, it is different from that of every other place." It follows that the community "story is a rich source of ideas for advertising, decoration, monuments, memorials, civic celebrations, and services." Thus, "business men interested in attracting attention should not overlook the power of the local scene."

To the growing collection of railroad archives in the Newberry Library of Chicago, the Illinois Central Railroad has added a mass of its records for the period from 1851 to 1906. Included are correspondence files from the president's office, some eight hundred volumes of accounts, and many rare pamphlets. The company plans to add to the collection as more records are located, and it eventually will deposit with the library materials relating to the more recent period of its history.

The advantages to railroads and other corporations of a "relationship based upon forthright candor with the scholars who write serious books — histories especially — comparable to that which has already been attained with the daily press" are emphasized in an editorial on "Friendly Relations with Writers of History" published in the *Railway Age* for May 12. Attention is called to a discussion of "The Corporation and the Historian" which formed a session of a meeting of the Economic History Association in September, 1944.

Problems involved in the editing of "The Territorial Papers of the United States" are discussed by Clarence E. Carter in a paper read before the Harrisburg meeting of the Society of American Archivists in November, 1944, and published in the *American Archivist* for April. In

the issue are a number of other papers presented at the same meeting. Dr. Solon J. Buck, archivist of the United States, is represented by a contribution entitled "Let's Look at the Record," in which he demonstrates the practical usefulness of manuscript records and reports on the progress that is being made in the field of archives administration. "Local Archives," particularly in Connecticut, are discussed by Harold S. Burt, and the functions and duties of "The Local Historian in New York" are described by Albert B. Corey.

Libraries, universities, and research institutions may obtain from the National Archives copies of material produced by the National Recovery Administration in the years from 1933 to 1937. Surplus copies of this material have been received by the National Archives with the records of the administration. It is said to be of "exceptional value for the study of all phases of American economic conditions not only for the period of 1933-37 but for antecedent periods as well." Requests for this material should be addressed to the general reference division of the National Archives.

Under the title "The Concept of the Frontier, 1871-1898: Comments on a Select List of Source Documents," Fulmer Mood presents, in the January issue of *Agricultural History*, a select bibliography of early literature relating to the frontier. Dr. Mood discusses each of the twenty works included in his list. In the same issue appears an appraisal, by a friend and colleague, Ulrich B. Phillips, of "The Traits and Contributions of Frederick Jackson Turner." Although this commentary on Turner was written in 1932, it is here published for the first time. A third article in the issue of interest to students of Turner's frontier theory is Fred A. Shannon's "Post Mortem on the Labor-Safety-Valve Theory."

Dr. Paul M. Angle took up his duties as director of the Chicago Historical Society on July 1, succeeding the late L. Hubbard Shattuck. As secretary of the Abraham Lincoln Association and of the Illinois State Historical Society at Springfield, Dr. Angle has had wide experience in historical work.

The newly established Great Lakes Historical Society, which was organized at Cleveland on April 26, 1944, is publishing a quarterly periodical, *Inland Seas*. The first number, issued in January, 1945, presents

as its leading article a review of "Sixty Years of the C.P.R. Great Lakes Fleet" by Fred Landon. Much of his narrative is concerned with traffic on Lake Superior, where the Great Lakes boats made connections with the Canadian Pacific Railway at Port Arthur and Fort William. Among the articles in the April issue is Walter Havighurst's account of "Captain Bundy's Gospel Ship." It records the story of Captain Henry Bundy, a Great Lakes skipper of the 1870's who "took the scattered ports of Lake Michigan and Lake Superior for his parish . . . putting into the lumber and iron harbors to hold religious services." Other contributions to the number include a history of "The First Lighthouse on the Great Lakes" by Lillian R. Benson, an account of "The Goodrich Line" of passenger boats on Lake Michigan by R. G. Plumb, and a poem on "The Death of Douglass Houghton" by Marie E. Gilchrist. Each issue presents an eight-page section of illustrations, picturing boats and lake views and adding greatly to the interest and attractive qualities of the quarterly.

The Reverend John Paul Cadden includes a useful chapter on "Catholic Historical Societies" in his recently published doctoral dissertation on the *Historiography of the American Catholic Church, 1785-1943* (Washington, 1944. 122 p.). The roles played by Archbishop John Ireland in organizing both the United States Catholic Historical Society and the Catholic Historical Society of St. Paul receive attention. By 1905, the writer records, Archbishop Ireland "thought the time opportune for the formation of a society to study the Catholic history of the Northwest." The results of the St. Paul society's activities, as published in *Acta et Dicta*, are analyzed in some detail.

That the Metropolitan Museum of Art is co-operating with teachers of history in the New York public schools by "turning over its Junior Museum to a series of American history exhibitions" is announced by Charlotte Hughes in an article entitled "Children Like History This Way" appearing in the magazine section of the *Christian Science Monitor* for May 5. The initial display revolved about Paul Revere and the American Revolution. In five months, over 38,000 children saw the display. Many of them went to the museum in class groups, listened to lectures, sang Revolutionary ballads, saw motion pictures, and participated in games that supplemented the exhibit.

"The Farmers' Museum in Cooperstown," New York, is described by Janet R. MacFarlane, its acting director, in the *Chronicle of Early*

*American Industries* for December, 1944. The museum was established as an "educational venture through which the study of early agricultural methods and farm life could be advanced." It collects both early agricultural and industrial tools, which are arranged in "shop alcoves" partitioned off in an old stone cattle barn. The New York State Historical Association administers the collection. The acquisition by the organization of a stone mansion of forty-six rooms near the buildings that house the Farmers' Museum is announced in the *State and Local History News* for January-March. It includes the information that "eight acres surrounding the house will be used for the restoration of a typical small New York village."

Local groups and communities that are planning celebrations of various kinds will find many practical suggestions in *The Folk Festival Handbook* published by the Evening Bulletin Folk Festival Association of Philadelphia (1944. 64 p.). Much of the material suggested is localized in the East, with emphasis on the racial groups that predominate there; nevertheless, the Midwesterner will find that it contains many useful ideas for his section. There are, for example, bibliographies of works relating to folk music, dances, crafts, and the like, and a list of phonograph recordings of folk music.

A *Picturol Catalog of Educational Slidefilms*, in which are listed hundreds of films that can be purchased from the Society for Visual Education, has been issued by that organization (26 p.). Teachers of history will find listed a number of films relating to American history and to Indian life. Copies of the catalogue may be obtained by writing to the publisher at 100 East Ohio Street, Chicago.

A pretentious volume on the *History of Rumson, 1665-1944*, is the result of a local history project inaugurated in the high school of the New Jersey city in 1943 (Asbury Park, New Jersey, 1944. 364 p.). A historical committee not only assembled material prepared in the high school history and civics classes, but its members interviewed numerous citizens, stimulated some of them to contribute articles for the volume, uncovered material in the local historical society and in the office of the county recorder of deeds, and found pertinent records in places as far away as New York, Newark, and Perth Amboy. The resulting book is a good example of what can be accomplished by an enthusiastic student group and a co-operative community.

In an article on "Louis Jolliet: The Middle Years, 1674-1686," published in *Mid-America* for April, Jean Delanglez recounts "Jolliet's activities on the Lower St. Lawrence during the years immediately preceding and immediately following" his northern journey to Hudson Bay. Information for this extremely detailed narrative of events in the life of the French explorer is drawn from varied sources, many of them manuscripts. A second contribution from Father Delanglez in the same issue of *Mid-America* is the first installment of a review of the career of "Antoine Laumet, *alias* Cadillac, Commandant at Michilimackinac: 1694-1697."

Lawrence J. Burpee is the author of a sketch of "David Thompson, A Great Land Geographer," which appears in the *Canadian Geographical Journal* for May. "Fur-trading was his occupation, the job that paid for bread and butter," Mr. Burpee writes of Thompson, "but exploration was his passion. He could never be happy with something unknown lying beyond his horizon; he must go and find it. And, unlike many other discoverers, having seen it, he must put it on the map." It will be recalled that Thompson was responsible for the first accurate maps of much of the Minnesota border lake country.

Plans for a memorial to Patrick Henry on the site of the house in which he spent his last years have been announced by the Patrick Henry Foundation of Richmond, Virginia. The house, which was destroyed by fire some years ago, will be rebuilt from still existing drawings; the law office and overseer's cottage on the grounds will be preserved; and a museum will be established on the estate. Patriotic organizations throughout the nation are co-operating in the movement inaugurated by the foundation.

The importance of Minnesota iron in the history of the American steel industry is recognized by Earl Chapin May in a recent book entitled *Principio to Wheeling, 1715-1945: A Pageant of Iron and Steel* (New York, 1945. 335 p.). In a chapter on "Over Inland Seas in Red Bellied Boats," he mentions the discovery of two Minnesota ranges and tells of the contribution that Mesabi ore, forged in Wheeling furnaces, has made toward the winning of the Second World War.

A commercial advertisement that is also a contribution to social history is an attractive booklet entitled *One Hundred Years of Recreation*,

published by the Brunswick-Balke-Collender Company of Chicago to mark the completion of a century of manufacturing of such aids to American sport and recreation as billiard tables and bowling equipment (1945. 48 p.). According to the narrative, in 1845, when the firm built its first billiard table, the "first code for baseball was adopted and printed." The booklet provides both a narrative and a pictorial record of the development of the firm as paralleled by the growth of American sports. A chronology arranged by decades furnishes a quick reference guide on American sports.

From its founding in Minneapolis in 1895 to its "fiftieth anniversary jubilee year," the *History of Sons of Norway: An American Fraternal Organization of Men and Women of Norwegian Birth or Extraction* is recounted by Carl G. O. Hansen in a volume published by the supreme lodge of the order (Minneapolis, 1944. 431 p.). In introductory chapters, the author outlines the backgrounds of Norwegian exploration and the story of early immigration to America. Chapters follow on the organization of the lodge, its expansion westward to the Pacific coast, the role of Norwegian Americans in the First and Second World wars, the Norse-American centennial celebration, and other related topics. The volume is a substantial contribution to the social history of an immigrant group that has figured prominently in the building of Midwest America.

Although C. Stewart Peterson gives a recent volume the title *The American Pioneer in Forty-eight States* (New York, 1945. 190 p.), his book proves to be nothing more than a series of brief sketches of state history, encyclopedic in character and not always accurate as to facts. The Minnesota sketch, which surveys the state's history from the day of the Indian and the explorer to its admission to the Union, is packed into slightly over three pages. Taken as a sample, it leads one to question the value of the book as an "aid in teaching United States history," the purpose for which it is intended, according to the author's introduction.

"The Value of Historical Societies in the Plains States" is discussed by George F. Will, president of the State Historical Society of North Dakota, in the *North Dakota Historical Quarterly* for October, 1944. Special attention is given to the museum and the library of the North Dakota society.



*A History of the Location of the State Capital in South Dakota*, prepared by John E. Dalton in 1944 as a master's thesis in the University of South Dakota, has been published by the university's Governmental Research Bureau as *Report* no. 14 (Vermillion, 1945. 54 p.). Mr. Dalton's study of the contests that finally resulted in placing the seat of government in Pierre is divided into six chapters, two of which deal with the "capital fights" of 1890 and 1904.

A new and arresting method of presenting historical facts is employed by the Great Lakes Greyhound Lines, Inc., in a booklet entitled *Michigan and the Old Northwest from the Ice Age to the End of French Rule* (Detroit, 1945. 80 p.). In highly colored cartoons, various periods and incidents in the early story of Michigan are pictured, so that they can be comprehended almost at a glance. Co-operating in the preparation of this unusual history were Luke Scheer as author, George Scarbo as illustrator, and Milo M. Quaife as editor. The latter's reputation as a historian, author, editor, and secretary of the Burton Historical Collection of the Detroit Public Library gives the user confidence in the historical accuracy of the material presented. He believes that the pictorial method employed in this booklet "is admirably calculated to impress . . . upon the memory of uncounted thousands of readers, both young and old," a knowledge of their "historical heritage." Among the subjects to which chapters are devoted are the prehistoric era, the Indians, exploration, the fur trade, specific explorers like La Salle, forts, missions, the founding of Detroit, the French and Indian War, and the French in the Northwest. For each chapter Mr. Scheer provides a brief explanatory introduction and a page of reading and place references, while Mr. Scarbo furnishes a two-page spread of colored cartoons, each of which includes thirty-two pictures or maps. Appropriate captions give the necessary factual material for each picture. A "Historical Reference Map" on which historic sites are indicated and the Greyhound lines by which they can be reached are marked is a feature of the booklet. The work is published as volume 1 of a *Highways to History* series. Other volumes planned for the future will carry the story of Michigan through the British and American periods, the admission to statehood, the Civil War, and the rise of industrialism, to the Second World War. Copies of this interesting pamphlet may be obtained from the Great Lakes Greyhound Lines for thirty-five cents.

As part of Wisconsin's observance of a century of statehood—an event that will be marked in 1948—the State Historical Society of Wisconsin “is inaugurating a new series of biographies of important Badger men and women,” according to an announcement in the June number of the *Wisconsin Magazine of History*. A tentative list of topics and of authors for the projected works appears in the issue. Among the forty-six subjects suggested are a number that will have a wide appeal in Minnesota. They include Nicolas Perrot, Dr. William Beaumont, Hercules L. Dousman, Bishop Jackson Kemper, and Frederick J. Turner.

How the State Historical Society of Wisconsin is solving problems of space in its newspaper division by a program of microfilming is explained by the editor of the *Wisconsin Magazine of History* in the March issue. The society's newspaper collection, he reports, now exceeds fifty thousand volumes. Its newspaper storage space is entirely filled, however. To meet this emergency, in 1943 the society began to make microfilm copies of Wisconsin weeklies, for the “microfilm copy of a newspaper is only 4 percent as large as the original.” Thus, the editor points out, “we are really adding rooms to our present building by reducing the size of the collection.” In the year ending on June 30, 1944, he reports, the society “filmed 211,001 pages of Wisconsin newspapers at a cost for materials and overhead of .0063 cents per page.” Problems of space in all divisions of the Wisconsin society are explained in a recent pamphlet on the *Building Needs of the Wisconsin State Historical Society* (Madison, 1945). Plans for a “proposed extension” to the present structure are included.

The publication in mimeographed form of a children's history of Wisconsin has been announced by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. The work, which bears the title *Our Own Wisconsin*, was written by Marvel Y. Ings of the society's museum staff; it is illustrated with drawings by Byron C. Jorns. Copies of this state history may be obtained from the historical society for fifty cents. Teachers of local history are finding the work particularly useful. It will be reviewed in a future issue of this magazine.

A report on the accomplishments of “Wisconsin Local Historical Societies, 1943-1944,” by the director of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, Dr. Edward P. Alexander, appears in the *Wisconsin Maga-*

*zine of History* for June. It is followed by a "directory" of local societies, thirty-six in number, with the names of their officers.

The steamboating careers of "Commodore" William F. Davidson and his brother, Captain Peyton S. Davidson, who took advantage of the building of the La Crosse and Milwaukee Railroad to establish a line of boats between the Wisconsin city and St. Paul in 1860, are reviewed by H. J. Hirshheimer in an interesting article on "La Crosse River History and the Davidsons" appearing in the *Wisconsin Magazine of History* for March. The brothers bought a small sawmill near La Crosse, established their own shipyard, built their own boats, and within three years were able to "offer complete service on the main river from La Crosse to St. Paul and from St. Anthony to St. Cloud, together with coördinated service on the Chippewa, St. Croix, and Minnesota rivers." As a result of their efforts, La Crosse soon overshadowed Prairie du Chien and Galena as a river port. In later decades, according to this account, the brothers not only operated boats as far south as St. Louis and on the Missouri, but "Captain Pate," as he was called, owned boats on Lake Minnetonka and Big Stone Lake in Minnesota. Most of the information for the narrative has been drawn from files of newspapers published chiefly at La Crosse and Winona.

A biographical sketch of John Martin Henni, who became bishop of Wisconsin in 1844, when the territory embraced a large section of what is now Minnesota, is contributed by Benjamin J. Blied to the *American-German Review* for June. Of Midwestern interest also is an article by Richard O. Hertz in the same issue, bearing the title "Dubuque on the Mississippi — A Vignette of the American Scene." Father Blied is the author of an article on "Wisconsin Catholics and the Civil War" which appears in two installments in the *Social Justice Review* for April and May.

Some plans for the "Iowa Centennial Anniversary" celebration, which has been set for December 28, 1946, are discussed in the July issue of the *Annals of Iowa*. The postoffice department has agreed to issue a centennial stamp for the occasion, and the minting of a special coin is projected. A state-wide celebration under the sponsorship of Iowa's state and local historical societies is being planned.

"Large State or Small" is the title of an outline, by J. A. Swisher in the April *Palimpsest*, of the steps by which the boundaries of Iowa were

determined previous to its admission as a state in 1846. The original plan, the author reveals, was for a "great agricultural commonwealth lying between the two mighty rivers and extending north to embrace part of the rich valley of the Minnesota River."

The adventures of a family of "Pioneer Iowa Bohemians" are recorded in the *Annals of Iowa* for April by Pauline Skorunka Merrill. She tells of her immigrant parents, who settled at Sioux City in 1870, and of other Bohemians who followed them to the Iowa frontier. When a group of twenty-nine arrived in the fall of 1874, the author records, her "father housed them until they got settled."

The social aspects of "Strawberry Time" in frontier Iowa are emphasized by William J. Petersen in an entertaining article appearing in the *Palimpsest* for June. Strawberry festivals arranged by Iowa churches and women's organizations of the 1860's especially draw his attention. He also tells something of the beginnings of strawberry culture in the Middle West. "Legal Holidays in Iowa" that are marked during the six months from July to December are discussed in great detail by Dr. Petersen in the *Iowa Journal of History and Politics* for April. How each holiday was legalized in Iowa and how it was celebrated by the state's pioneers are explained, and many pioneer festivities are described.

A convenient chronological list of "Early Oregon Country Forts," compiled by J. Neilson Barry, is published in the *Oregon Historical Quarterly* for June. Dates, locations, origins, and reports on material remains and markers are among the useful items of information included in each descriptive note. Bibliographical references also are given. A total of fifty-one posts are listed.

To commemorate the two hundred and seventy-fifth anniversary of the Hudson's Bay Company, which was marked in London on May 2, the *Beaver* devotes much of the space in its June issue to articles about the origin and history of the "oldest chartered company in the world." Among the elaborately illustrated articles in the number are an account of "The Royal Society and the Company" by R. P. Stearns, a biographical sketch of "Rupert of the Rhine" by R. O. MacFarland, a review of the career of Charles Bayly, "First Governor on the Bay," by Alice Johnson, an account of the relations with the company and the explorations in the North of "Radisson and Des Groseilliers" by Grace Lee Nute, an

explanation of the origin and significance of the company's "Coat of Arms" by Ramsay Traquair, sketches of a group of "Adventurers of 1670" by Fulmer Mood, and a picture of "Life at Charles Fort" by C. Parnell. The text of the company's charter, based upon a photostat of the original in its archives, is presented with a foreword by Chester Martin. With it appear portraits of Charles II, who granted the charter, and a picture of the first page of the illuminated parchment document.

In "A Brief History of Exploration and Research in the Canadian Eastern Arctic," which appears in the *Canadian Geographical Journal* for March, P. D. Baird and J. L. Robinson outline a story that spans the centuries from 1576 to the present. Mention is made of the travels in the Hudson Bay country of Radisson and Groseilliers.

### GENERAL MINNESOTA ITEMS

An interdepartmental program in American studies, which is intended "to guide students to a broad knowledge of their own nation, in relation both to its own regions and to the world," will be inaugurated at the University of Minnesota during the coming school year. Co-operating with the chairman of the program, Professor Tremaine McDowell of the department of English, are representatives of the political science, fine arts, history, sociology, journalism, and philosophy departments, and the dean of the graduate school. In addition to regular class work leading to the degrees of B.A. and M.A., plans have been formulated for lectures, institutes, exhibits, and extension programs that will "draw on the cultural activities of the state" to carry the advantages of the program to adults who cannot attend ordinary university classes. Among the projects planned is an annual institute to be held in the Center for Continuation Study on the campus. It is expected that cultural institutions in the Twin Cities, including the Minnesota Historical Society, will co-operate by arranging special exhibits illustrating the contributions to American culture of the fine arts, the crafts, racial groups, and the like. A number of other colleges and universities, including the University of Maryland and Augustana College at Rock Island, Illinois, have adopted similar programs. Professor O. Fritiof Ander of the latter institution explains in some detail the "New Augustana Plan and an American Studies Major" in the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review* for June.

A "Prelude to the Study of Indian Music in Minnesota" is the title chosen by Miss Frances Densmore of Red Wing for an interesting autobiographical narrative published in the *Minnesota Archaeologist* for April. In it she tells how the recording of Chippewa songs first engaged her attention in the early years of the present century. Among the Indians of northern Minnesota, she relates, she began a study that drew the favorable attention and support of the Bureau of American Ethnology. Under its auspices, the work expanded, until it "included practically every region from British Columbia to the Everglades of Florida." Artifacts found by archaeologists who excavated the "Long Lake Site" in Hennepin County are described and classified in the same issue of the *Archaeologist* by R. H. Landon and G. A. Flaskerd. Many of the objects discussed are pictured in a series of drawings that accompany the article. In the January issue of the same publication Ernest L. Berg describes, classifies, and analyzes the "Stone and Metallic Materials Used by Ancient Indians of Minnesota in the Making of Artifacts," and E. S. Macgowan tells how Minnesota Indians engaged in "Making Chipped Artifacts from Glacial Pebbles."

The history of the Benedictines in Minnesota and particularly the backgrounds of St. John's Abbey at Collegeville are stressed in articles appearing in the *Scriptorium*, a publication issued twice a year by the clerics of the abbey. Among the contributions to the Christmas, 1944, issue is a biographical sketch of Father Aloysius Hermanutz, "Apostle of the Ojibways," by Fr. Evrard Stueber. He reviews the career of a member of the Benedictine order who for more than half a century served as a Catholic missionary among the Chippewa of the White Earth Reservation. Fr. Fintan Bromenshenkel is the author of an article reviewing the history of the various buildings used as chapels by the order after the first members of the group arrived in Minnesota in May, 1856. The "Abbot of Indian Bush" is the title of an article by Fr. Colman Barry dealing with the work of pioneer leaders of the Minnesota abbey.

A "Pioneer Mission Teacher," Sister Lioba Braun, is the subject of a sketch by Sister M. Ethelbert in the *Indian Sentinel* for March. In 1878 Sister Lioba went to the White Earth Indian Reservation to teach in St. Benedict's Mission School there, and she remained there for more than fifty years.

A notable series of radio dramatizations, based upon incidents in the history of the Arrowhead country and northern Minnesota, was produced under the title "Historic Site Ahead" over station KDAL of Duluth during the season of 1944-45. The programs were written and narrated by Gilbert Fawcett for Freimuth's Department Store of Duluth. The series, which opened on September 17, and was continued every Sunday at 5:15 P.M. throughout the winter and spring, included programs revolving about such varied subjects as the founding of the Duluth Symphony Orchestra, the "'3-Spot' Engine in Two Harbors," the "Moving of Hibbing," the "Old Lighthouse on Minnesota Point," "Duluth's First Grain Elevator," a Lake Superior disaster which resulted in the sinking of a whaleback, the "Man Who Bought Duluth," and the "Vanished Town of Buchanan." Copies of the scripts may be obtained by writing to Freimuth's store at Duluth; electrical transcriptions of the programs are available for use by clubs and schools. The sponsors plan to continue the series during the coming fall and winter over the same network.

*Historical Highlights of Big Sandy Lake and the Savanna Portage in the Minnesota Arrowhead* are reviewed by Orvis M. Nelson in an attractive pamphlet that is made available by the Minnesota Arrowhead Association of Duluth (1945. 15 p.). Mr. Nelson draws extensively upon the narratives of explorers who used the Savanna Portage and penetrated the Big Sandy Lake country—men like David Thompson, Lewis Cass, and Henry R. Schoolcraft. Trading posts, missions, Indian tribes, logging operations, and steamboats are among the topics touched upon. The writer concludes that "there is no spot in the Minnesota Arrowhead or anywhere else, for that matter, where the traditions of a turbulent past combine so completely with wild, unchanged native beauty for the pleasure of those who wish to partake of it." The tourist who reads Mr. Nelson's booklet, will enhance the enjoyment of vacationing in this wilderness playground. Interesting features of the pamphlet are a reproduction of Schoolcraft's map of the Big Sandy Lake country made after his trip of 1820, and a series of charcoal sketches of scenes in the vicinity by Mrs. Mamie B. Nelson.

A scholarly study of the "Factors Influencing the Distribution of the German Pioneer Population in Minnesota" in the decade from 1860 to 1870 is contributed by Hildegard Binder Johnson to the January issue

of *Agricultural History*. The author reveals that she used "small areas . . . as basic units," drawing data about Minnesota's German pioneers from the manuscript census schedules for 1860 and 1870 to prepare maps indicating not only the distribution of the total German population in the latter year, but showing the "percentage of German stock in each township in Minnesota" at the beginning and end of the decade. By this exact method, Mrs. Johnson found that a large part of the German rural population was concentrated in the great bend of the Minnesota River and in counties along the Mississippi. To each of the counties that attracted a large German contingent in the decade under consideration, she devotes a special section of her narrative. The reasons for the immigrants' choice of location she assigns to a "combination of geographical and historical factors." She concludes that "their location in the south-central part of the State was mainly a result of the time when they arrived in comparatively greatest numbers," and she expresses the belief that the "most important factor determining the distribution of German pioneers in the region covered by this study was accessibility in terms of time and place." Since Minnesota had few railroads in the period of the greatest German migration, the "main highways" of these newcomers were the rivers. The preference for timbered rather than prairie land, the desire for locations on navigable rivers, and "national cohesion" are among the more significant factors that influenced the German settlers, according to Mrs. Johnson.

Half a dozen "Minnesota Localisms" that are in common use in and about the Twin Cities are defined by William Randel in the April number of *American Speech*. Mr. Randel is among the contributors to the present issue of *Minnesota History*.

All who are interested in Minnesota's natural resources will welcome a new work on the *Mammals of Minnesota*, by Gustav Swanson, Thaddeus Surber, and Thomas S. Roberts, which has been published by the Minnesota department of conservation as number 2 of its *Technical Bulletins* (1945. 108 p.). Dr. Roberts draws much of the material for the opening chapter, which bears the title "The Vanished Mammals of Minnesota," from the narratives of explorers who first revealed the Minnesota country to the world. Early descriptions of the buffalo, the American elk, the antelope, the grizzly bear, and other animals no longer found in the state are cited.



## WAR HISTORY ACTIVITIES

The "GI Roundtable" educational pamphlets published by the Historical Service Board of the American Historical Association for members of the armed forces are now available to civilians, the board announced recently. The booklets, which deal with such topics as *What Is Propaganda?*, *Can We Prevent Future Wars?*, *Australia: Our Neighbor "Down Under,"* and *Our Russian Ally*, may be obtained from the superintendent of documents, Washington, D. C., at fifteen cents each. The work of the Historical Service Board was organized under the direction of a former superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society, Dr. Theodore C. Blegen, and two former members of its staff, Miss Sarah A. Davidson and Mrs. Arthur J. Larsen, have been engaged in editing and publishing the pamphlets.

The editorship of the *War Records Collector*, a monthly publication of the American Association for State and Local History, has been taken over by Dr. James H. Rodabaugh, director of the Ohio War History Commission, Columbus. He succeeds Dr. Lester J. Cappon, who is leaving the University of Virginia to become archivist of Colonial Williamsburg. In the June issue of the *Collector*, Virgil V. Peterson stresses the importance of "Business Records in War History," reporting in particular on his own collection of data about wartime activities of Colorado business firms. "The Collection of Personal Military Service Records in Delaware" is described by Leon de Valinger, Jr., in the April issue of the *Collector*, and in the May number Marvin W. Schlegel tells how he has been "Collecting War Records with a Typewriter" in Pennsylvania. A brief report on a movie filmed in color at Kenosha, Wisconsin, "to record how a typical home town did its part in winning the war," appears in the June number. Of local Minnesota interest is a note in the April issue about the activities of the Ramsey County and St. Paul war history committees.

A series of pamphlets on *The Community Basis for Postwar Planning*, issued since June, 1944, by the University of Minnesota Press, is the result of a suggestion from Dean Theodore C. Blegen of the graduate school that a group of scholars in several different fields undertake a "survey of at least one Minnesota community in an effort to find out just what the impact of the war has been on its economic, social, and cultural life." The community chosen was Red Wing, and the five booklets pub-

lished in the first year of the project center about that city. The series opens with an economic study by Roland S. Vaile issued under the title *Red Wing Looks Ahead: The Economic Impact of the War on a Minnesota Community, with a Forecast of Postwar Conditions* (29 p.). The other booklets in the series are concerned with social and educational problems. In the second, Charles W. Boardman deals with *Out-of-School Youth in Red Wing* (28 p.); the third, by F. Stuart Chapin, is a consideration of *The Impact of the War on Community Leadership and Opinion in Red Wing* (26 p.); a study of *Diets of High School Students and Factors Influencing Food Habits* by Clara M. Brown is published as the fourth (10 p.); and the fifth is a discussion, by Nelson L. Bossing and Leo J. Brueckner, of *The Impact of the War on the Schools of Red Wing* (118 p.). Mr. Chapin's conclusions are presented in somewhat different form in the *American Sociological Review* for April, to which he contributes an article entitled "Impact of the War on Minnesota Communities, with Reference to Problems of Postwar Planning."

A note about a proposed war memorial and archives building at Des Moines, to serve as a "home for the official and unofficial material of every kind touching the record of Iowa and Iowa people in World War II and all previous wars," appears in the *Annals of Iowa* for April.

Dorothy D. Flynn is the author of part 10 of a survey of "Missouri and the War" appearing in the *Missouri Historical Review* for January. Rationing, crop reports, war industries, the activities of women, and post-war planning are among the topics that receive attention.

The archives of the Minnesota Division of Civilian Defense, which completed its activities on June 30, have been added to the war history collection of the Minnesota Historical Society. The material fills twenty-eight filing drawers and two cartons. With it is a history of the office by Mary Proal Lindeke. In this manuscript of twelve typewritten pages, she presents a review of the operations of a state war agency that should prove of value to all students of the conflict.

That the "last Eighth Air Force bombs to fall on a German target originated at the same base from which were carried the first explosives dropped on the Germans by U. S. heavy bombers" is disclosed in a press release received from Sergeant Henry L. Davis of St. Paul. He has also presented a copy of an article about a Christmas mission on which seven

heavy bombers carried gifts to the war orphans of Nantes from the same Eighth Air Force bomber station in England. As a member of the public relations office of the 384th Bomb Group, Sergeant Davis participated in the latter flight.

The weekly Africa-Middle East edition of the *Stars and Stripes*, which is published at Cairo, Egypt, is being received from the publishers.

A regular feature of the *Bovey Press* is a page devoted to news about the community's men and women in the armed forces. It bears the title "Week by Week with Those in Service from Bovey," and it is distributed to service men and women from the vicinity.

### LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

A large, bright room in the handsome new courthouse at Red Wing provides both display space and office quarters for the Goodhue County Historical Society. Four floor cases and nine wall cases are crammed with exhibits; pictures fill most of the available wall space; and much material is stored in cabinets. Since the county has an exceptionally rich background of Indian life and early white exploration and settlement, it yields abundant material for the local historian and collector. Evidence that the historical society organized there in 1924 has been active is to be found in its present substantial collection. The community's appreciation of its work is reflected by an annual appropriation of \$1,200.00 from the county board of commissioners.

Several extensive Indian collections built up by residents of the locality have been entrusted to the care of the society. Arrowheads, knives, hammers, and other primitive implements of stone and bone are included in a collection assembled by Dr. William M. Sweney of Red Wing. He assembled also plaster models of various types of sherds and of certain important mound groups in various localities. Of local significance is the archaeological collection of Dr. E. W. Schmidt. All the arrowheads and implements in this group, which fill a large floor case, were found in Goodhue County. A case of arrowheads from the locality and another representing other parts of America constitute the collection of the Reverend A. T. Gesner. In addition to these large collections, the museum has some items of pipestone and various other materials, all of primitive Indian manufacture.

The Goodhue County museum has domestic and agricultural imple-

ments in profusion. Many of these objects were brought in by the pioneers of the 1850's, and some came with the Scandinavian immigrants who settled in and about Vasa. Of Norwegian manufacture are a hackle, a yarn winder, and a spinning wheel, dating from 1856 and used until recently. There are also wooden shoes and skates that are identified with the county's Norwegian pioneers. Coffee mills, irons, a bootjack, wooden bowls, lamps, graters, a caster, watches, a button collection, and framed wreaths of hair, yarn, and seeds reflect varied phases of frontier life. The transfer of culture to the Middle West is suggested by some early musical instruments, including an organ, a melodeon, a guitar, a violin, two "psalmodikoms," and a large music box.

Among the costumes of special significance is an elaborate wedding gown of 1870 with such accessories as slippers, stockings, and a fan. The dress itself is of white satin beaded with pearls. A quaint doll, which dates from the 1880's, has about a dozen dresses typical of the period. The Civil War uniform, belt, and watch that belonged to Colonel William Colvill, leader of the First Minnesota at Gettysburg, are treasured not only for their costume interest, but for their association value.

The society has accumulated a large number of pictures of varied interest. There are lithographs of Red Wing in 1868, 1874, and 1880, and of Zumbrota in 1880. An early photograph of Red Wing's main street in 1860 shows ox-drawn carts loaded with wheat bound for the local market. One display consists of photographs of every rural church in the county. Another important collection includes pictures of many of the Goodhue County men who are serving with the armed forces in the Second World War. Most of those who have given their lives or are missing in action are represented, and an attempt is being made to obtain pictures and service records of all local men and women.

What is perhaps one of the most complete agricultural diaries in the state is owned by the Goodhue County society. It was kept continuously for sixty-six years by Lewis Johnson, a farmer of Goodhue Township. From 1864 until his death in 1930 he entered in his diary daily records of the weather, of farming activities, of events connected with home and domestic life, and of social, church, and community affairs. On the few occasions when illness prevented the writing of entries, his son made them for Johnson. In the back of each volume, the diarist entered his financial accounts, providing a detailed record of prices for the long period covered. There is a separate volume for each year. Another diary

preserved by the Goodhue County society is equal to the Johnson diary in length, but it records a career of a very different type. It was kept by Oliver P. Francisco, a musician who settled in Red Wing in 1856, organized a string band there, and was active as a music teacher. His daily record covers the years from 1860 to 1926.

The active leadership of the Goodhue County Historical Society rests with its president, Mr. C. A. Rasmussen of Red Wing. He not only built up its collections and arranged them in the present quarters, but he draws upon them for frequent news releases which appear in several county newspapers under the title "Historical Potpourri." With the aid of a secretary, he lists the items displayed in the museum, and he is now engaged in collecting a body of war records. Teachers throughout the county, as well as in outlying localities, are encouraged to visit the museum with their classes, and about twenty-five groups are entertained each year.

B.L.H.

Files of Becker County newspapers preserved by the Becker County Historical Society are listed in the *Detroit Lakes Record* for April 19. Papers for the years from 1886 to 1929 are included in the collection. With the list is an announcement stating that those wishing to consult the files "can get the keys to the library from the attendant at the museum any afternoon from two to five."

The acquisition by the Blue Earth County Historical Society of some important manuscripts relating to the activities of the Mankato Settlers Association, a land claim organization of the 1850's, is announced in the *Mankato Free Press* for April 10. The documents were among the papers of the late John A. Willard. Quotations appearing in the *Free Press* indicate that they contain data of primary interest for the early history of Mankato.

A photograph of an oil painting by Anton Gag, depicting an early Brown County grist mill at Iberia, has been obtained by Mr. Fred W. Johnson for the Brown County Historical Society, according to an announcement in the *New Ulm Review* for June 7. The picture is owned by Mr. Henry Schwerdtfeger of Burbank, California, whose father, August Schwerdtfeger, co-operated with Herman Plath in building the mill about 1872. The photograph was obtained for the Brown County society by Miss Emily Brown, a former resident of Traverse des Sioux.

A brief outline of the history of the mill appears in the *Review*. From the local historical society's picture collection are drawn many of the photographs reproduced in a series of advertisements for Schells' beer, published in the *New Ulm Daily Journal* in recent months. Explanatory data appearing with the pictures are based upon information furnished by Mr. Johnson. Most of the pictures are of local people and local scenes.

The Carver County Historical Society has received an appropriation of \$800.00 from the county board for the year 1945-46. The sum was granted at a meeting of the board held on July 9. Officers of the society, including its president, Mr. O. D. Sell, attended the meeting. On behalf of the society, they presented the county with an enlarged photograph of a portrait of Jonathan Carver, the explorer for whom the county is named.

Many enthusiastic visitors attended an open house arranged in the Chippewa County Historical Society's museum in the Windom Building at Montevideo on May 25. Special committees were named by the president of the society, Dr. Anna Amrud, to arrange exhibits of costumes, pottery, pictures, Indian articles, Civil War items, pioneer household utensils, and the like for this evening opening. Since early in the spring the museum has been open to visitors regularly on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. A grant of \$300.00 made possible the reopening of the museum, which had been closed for three years. In addition to its rooms in the Windom Building, the Chippewa County society has available two log cabins that may be used for displays in the future. One is located on the fair grounds, and the other in Smith Park. The latter, which is known as the Wilkinson cabin, was turned over to the society recently by the city council of Montevideo.

Members of the Cottonwood County Historical Society arranged a program presented before the Windom Community Club on May 21. The principal speaker was Dr. Lewis Beeson of the Minnesota Historical Society, who explained "The Value of a Historical Society" to a community. The local society was represented by Dr. H. C. Beise and Mr. E. E. Gillam, who recalled the founding and early years of the organization and told of its need for museum quarters.

An appeal for material for display in the museum of the Fillmore County Historical Society at Preston, issued by Mrs. P. L. Wilson, its president, appears in the *Harmony News* for June 7.

Members of the Hennepin County Historical Society gathered at Loring Park in Minneapolis on June 16 for the organization's annual outing and picnic. A program revolving about the history of the park and its vicinity was arranged for the occasion. Under the guidance of Mr. Herbert T. Park, Mr. Ward H. Benton, and Mr. Dana W. Frear, groups of picnickers visited historic sites in the park and listened to talks on their significance. "Early Park Board Actions on Loring Park" were recalled by Mr. Francis A. Gross, president of the Minneapolis park board. A feature of the gathering was the dedication of a tree, which eventually will be accompanied by a marker, commemorating the services to the society of the late Edward C. Gale. The dedicatory address was given by Mr. Bergmann Richards, a vice-president of the Minnesota Historical Society.

Fur traders' routes in what is now Lake County leading from Beaver Bay and Pork Bay northward to the Hudson Bay country are described by Judge William E. Scott in the *Two Harbors Chronicle and Times* for May 31. His contribution appears under the title "Old Relic Recalls Early Trading Routes." Judge Scott reports the recent gift to the Lake County Historical Society of the gun barrel of a flintlock musket found near Birch Lake, where, he believes, it probably was left by an early trader.

Mrs. B. T. Willson of Rochester, president of the Olmsted County Historical Society, was among the speakers who addressed a gathering of more than five hundred old settlers and others interested in local history at Pleasant Grove on June 17. She urged members of the group to preserve and give proper care to manuscripts, records, and objects of historical value existing in the community, and invited all to visit the county society's museum in Rochester. An outline of the history of the township was read by Mrs. Otto Bernard. A historical exhibit reflecting the backgrounds of organizations, schools, churches, and individuals in the township was arranged in a local schoolhouse.

A historical sketch of Jasper, prepared by a pioneer of the community, Christian O. Berdahl, was read by Miss Thelma Haugen before a meeting of the Pipestone County Old Settlers Historical Society at Pipestone on June 16. Mr. Berdahl's narrative, which took the form of a reminiscence letter, is published in full in the *Jasper Journal* for June 21 and 28.

"Pioneering in Minnesota" was the subject of an address presented by Mr. Willoughby M. Babcock, curator of the museum of the Minnesota Historical Society, before the summer meeting of the Polk County Historical Society, held at Huot State Park near Crookston on June 24.

The most recent addition to the roll of local historical societies in Minnesota is the St. Anthony Park Historical Society of St. Paul, organized at a meeting held in the district's branch library on May 20. About a hundred residents of St. Anthony Park attended the meeting. The program arranged for the occasion included talks and addresses by Judge Kenneth G. Brill, president of the Minnesota Historical Society, Dean Theodore C. Blegen, one of the state organization's vice-presidents, and Willoughby M. Babcock, curator of its museum. Professor Andrew Boss was elected president of the new society; Mrs. T. C. Blegen and William Boss were named vice-presidents; Harriet Sewall is secretary; and Margaret Egan, treasurer. The new society's first offering was a display of toys arranged early in June in the St. Anthony Park branch library. The exhibit is described in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for June 17.

The experiences of Minnesota settlers who emigrated from the Isle of Man and established homes at Greenvale in the early 1850's were recounted by Mrs. S. V. Silliman in a paper presented before a meeting of the Rice County Historical Society at Northfield on May 22. The speaker's narrative centered about her grandparents, Mr. and Mrs. John Clague, who were members of the colony. A talk on the Isle of Man was given by Mrs. David Bryn-Jones. The proposed purchase by the Faribault Foundation of a house built in 1853 and occupied at Faribault by the city's founder, Alexander Faribault, was discussed, and announcement was made that after the house is acquired the deed will be transferred to the local historical society. Arrangements for the purchase were completed late in June, when the officers of the society appointed Mr. Guerdon Allen as chairman of a committee to supervise the reconditioning of the house. Its preservation as a historic museum is assured as a result of the joint action of citizens of Faribault and the county historical society.

Under the sponsorship of the Roseau County Historical Society, a celebration commemorating the fiftieth anniversary of the organization of the county was staged at Roseau on June 24. The principal speaker for



the occasion was the Honorable Stafford King, state auditor. A pageant depicting scenes from the early history of the county was presented. Arrangements were made to turn over any profits resulting from the celebration to the society's museum fund.

"Adventures in Historical Research" was the subject of an address presented by Dean Theodore C. Blegen of the graduate school in the University of Minnesota before the annual meeting of the St. Louis County Historical Society at Duluth on May 31. About seventy people attended the meeting.

The reopening of the museum of the Stearns County Historical Society in the courthouse at St. Cloud is announced in the *St. Cloud Daily Times* for May 4, where some of its special displays are described. Because the space was needed for a defense organization, the museum has been closed for more than three years. Under the supervision of Mrs. L. A. Williams, it is now open to the public on Saturday mornings and on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons.

The Washington County Historical Society opened its museum for the summer with a program and a silver tea on June 16. The speaker was Dr. R. B. Harvey of Stillwater, who reported on the excavation of Indian mounds in the St. Croix Valley. At a meeting of the society held on April 21, Mr. Lou Orr reviewed the history of the Basswood Grove Episcopal Church, which was established in 1863. Under the auspices of the society, about forty people traveled to Prairie du Chien on June 8 to visit the Dousman House and other historic sites in the community.

### LOCAL HISTORY ITEMS

In a series of articles entitled "Memories from the Fireplace," published in the *Anoka County Union* of Anoka, T. G. J. Pease presents glimpses of social history in the vicinity. The old Ticknor drug store is described in the issue for April 25; some pioneer delicacies are recalled on May 2; early phonographs and telegraphy are the subjects touched upon in the issue for May 16; and some of the writer's boyhood chores are described on June 30.

The *Amboy Herald*, the *Blue Earth County Enterprise* of Mapleton, and the *Winnebago City Enterprise* continue to present articles about frontier events and pioneer life in Minnesota by the Reverend Charles

E. McColley. The Amboy series, which now numbers more than sixty articles, includes some revealing pictures of frontier social life. Among the subjects of recent installments are games and amusements, April 27; visiting day on a frontier farm, June 8; early Sunday school picnics, June 22; and frontier Fourth of July celebrations, June 29. The author's recollections of wheat raising, milling, and marketing, presented in the issue of June 20, and his descriptions of early harvesting and threshing machines, published on May 4 and 18, will be of interest to students of agricultural history.

Deceased veterans of the Civil War and later conflicts who are buried in New Ulm cemeteries are listed in the *New Ulm Review* for May 24.

Fine race horses owned by Mr. William Huevelmann and other residents of New Ulm in the early decades of the present century gave the city a reputation as a "Horse Racing Center" and attracted sportsmen from far and wide to the Brown County fair, according to an article in the *New Ulm Review* for April 19.

A congregation at Mountain Lake in Minnesota is the subject of a "Brief History of the Bethel Mennonite Church" by Marcella Franz published in the *Mennonite Historical Bulletin* for June. The story of the church is traced from its organization in 1889.

With three installments appearing in the April, May, and June issues of *Minnesota Medicine*, the "History of Medicine in Goodhue County" which opened in the February issue is concluded (see *ante*, p. 173). Significant events of the decade from 1890 to 1900 are reviewed in the April number. The remainder of the section and the installments that follow are devoted to notes on physicians who have practiced in the county. Among them are a few distinguished names, such as Dr. J. C. Gronvold of Wanamingo, Dr. Charles N. Hewitt of Red Wing, and Dr. William W. Sweeney of Red Wing.

The eightieth anniversary of the founding of the First National Bank of Red Wing is the occasion for the publication of a brief review of its history in the *Daily Republican Eagle* of Red Wing for June 20. The bank was organized on June 20, 1865, by six local businessmen.

The sixty years from 1885 to 1945 during which the real-estate firm of Thorpe Brothers has been active in Minneapolis furnish the theme

for an attractive anniversary booklet entitled *Helping to Write Minneapolis History* (20 p.). It presents a "brief story of the progress these 60 years have brought," not only for the firm, but for the city and the community. Paralleling the narrative of Thorpe Brothers' founding, early struggles, and later expansion are thumbnail sketches at the foot of each page of some of the city's early landmarks, such as the Falls of St. Anthony and the courthouse. A few of the firm's major developments, including the Country Club area and Sunny Slope, are described in special sections.

A pamphlet about *The First Fifty Years* of the Young-Quinlan Company of Minneapolis contains reprints of nine newspaper advertisements published in March, 1944, to mark the firm's golden anniversary (1945. 11 p.). They deal with such events in its history as the opening day, the fire that destroyed the company's first store, and the building of its present home.

That "Norway's Renegade Hamsun Once Preached in Minneapolis Church" is recalled by Hjalmar Bjornson in an article published in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for June 10. It is based to a large extent upon Rasmus B. Anderson's recollections of Knut Hamsun as recorded in the former's autobiography of 1915. The Norwegian author lived in Minneapolis and the Northwest for a short time in the 1880's.

"The Kitty Ging Murder Case," which was a center of interest in Minneapolis for more than a year following December 3, 1894, is the subject of a feature article in the *Minneapolis Sunday Tribune* for July 1. The same paper presents, in its issue for June 24, an account by Catherine Burke of a local "Bizarre Murder at Turn of Century," when Frank Hamilton killed Leonard R. Day.

Wages received and prices paid on the Minnesota frontier are recalled by Mr. O. J. Niles of Grand Rapids in an interview published in the *Grand Rapids Herald-Review* for April 18, in the column entitled "Up in This Neck of Woods." Mr. Niles' family settled in Olmsted County in the early 1860's, and he removed to Itasca County in 1905; thus, he has experienced frontier conditions at first hand in two sections of Minnesota. Wild game and other natural resources to which the northern Minnesota pioneer turned for his food supply are described in the same column for April 11. In the issue for June 13, the story of

early settlement in the Bowstring Lake area is reviewed, and some information about the origin of the name is presented. Pioneer burial places and early drug stores in Grand Rapids are the subjects of the columns for June 20 and 27.

The names of "deceased soldiers and sailors . . . who are buried in Martin County cemeteries" are listed in the *Fairmont Daily Sentinel* for May 31. The arrangement is by wars, communities, and cemeteries. In most instances, the unit with which the individual served is given. The list reveals that men who served in the War of 1812, the Mexican War, the Civil War, the Spanish-American War, and the First and Second World wars are buried in Martin County.

The founding of the Stewartville Co-operative Creamery Association is recalled in an article in the *Stewartville Star* for June 7, which calls attention to its thirtieth anniversary. The organization meeting in 1914, the erection of a creamery building, and later improvements in equipment are described.

A pioneer settler, Thyge N. Ulvigen, who "Took Homestead on Site of Fergus Falls in 1866," is the subject of a brief article in the *Fergus Falls Daily Journal* for May 1. An item is quoted from the *Journal* of June 25, 1874, in which the statement is made that Ulvigen was the "first white man to take a claim after the Sioux outbreak" on the site of the present city.

Under the title *The Saint Paul Community Chest in Its Twenty-fifth Year*, the St. Paul welfare agency has published a pamphlet commemorating the passing of a quarter century since its organization in 1920 (1945. 19 p.). Sections are devoted to the opening decade, to the depression years and the reorganization that followed, and to the chest's role in the Second World War. Lists of campaign chairmen, chest presidents, and of the amounts subscribed each year are included in the pamphlet.

A booklet about *The House of Hope Presbyterian Church, St. Paul* has been published by the congregation "in the hope that it may help the members of this church to know its background, to understand all that is told in the storied windows, all that is implied in the rich symbolism of design and carving." It opens with a note on the "origin of the name," which was suggested by the pioneer pastor, Edward D. Neill

There follows a short chapter on the history of the church, which traces its origin back to Neill's First Presbyterian Church of 1849. The chief value of the booklet, however, lies in its detailed description of the church's architectural features. Included are eight pages of colored plates, picturing the exterior of the church and some of its stained glass windows.

"Redwood Falls in 1869" is recalled by one of its oldest residents, Mr. Alexander Schmahl, in an interview published in the *Redwood Gazette* for April 17. When Mr. Schmahl's father took his family to the little settlement in 1869 it numbered only two hundred people.

"The Story of the Dawson Road," which extended from Fort William to Fort Garry, is recounted by Earl V. Chapin in a narrative appearing in installments in the *Warroad Pioneer* for March 15 and 22. The writer explains that "from Lake Superior to the Northwest Angle the Dawson Road was primarily a water route," but that at the northernmost point of Minnesota "water-borne freight, mail and passengers were loaded onto carts and stage for the last lap" of the journey to the Canadian Red River settlement. Incongruous as it may seem, Mr. Chapin reveals, at the point where the transfer was made a Canadian community was established on American territory. Contemporary descriptions of the village, which was known as Nor'West Angle, are quoted by the author, who also describes some of the journeys made over the Dawson Road in the 1870's. An article on "The River St. Pierre," in which an effort is made to determine the identity of the first white man to see the Warroad River, is published in the issue of the *Pioneer* for April 26. In the same paper for June 14 and 21, Mr. Chapin reprints in two installments his "History of the Roseau Valley," which appeared originally in *Minnesota History* for December, 1943.

That the establishment of a public library at Benson resulted from the efforts of a women's literary club, the Coterie, and particularly from the work of one of its leaders, Mrs. C. L. Scofield, is emphasized in an article about the early history of the library appearing in the *Swift County Monitor* of Benson for April 6. From 1906, when a modest reading room was opened in a local bank, the story of the library is traced through the period when a separate building was erected to house it in 1913. The approval of a library tax and the obtaining of a Carnegie grant were among the steps leading to the success of the project.

Some of Duluth's dramatic history is reviewed by Rae Hargrave in an illustrated feature article entitled "Fifty Years Behind the Scenes," which appears in the "Cosmopolitan" section of the *Duluth News-Tribune* for May 13. The point of departure for the narrative is an interview with Frank Gullingsrud and Peter Nelson, who have been members of the local stagehands' union since 1895. Included is some information about the history of the union, of which Mr. Gullingsrud is now president. Popular attractions, like "Ben Hur," and well-known theatrical figures, like Fiske O'Hara, were seen frequently in Duluth before the day of the movies, according to this account. Among the illustrations are pictures of some of the theaters in which legitimate drama was played in Duluth.

How "Frantic Duluth Citizens Worked All Night in Defiance of the U. S. Government to Dig the Famous Duluth Ship Canal" is explained by Clifford W. Campbell in a feature article appearing in the *Minneapolis Sunday Tribune* for June 3. Many of the local tales that have grown up about the story of the building of the canal are brought together in this narrative. Many of them relate to the early rivalry between Duluth and Superior.

Information about "three-generation farms on Yankee Ridge in Morris Township" of Stevens County is contained in a letter from Grace C. Hall of Creswell, Oregon, published in the *Morris Tribune* for June 8. Miss Hall tells of several families that settled in the vicinity in the early 1870's and are still represented there. A "four-generation farm" owned by Mr. Kenneth Larson in Swan Lake Township is the subject of a sketch in the issue for June 22.



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