Reviews of Books

Minnesota under Four Flags (Minnesota Centennial Publications, no. 1). (St. Paul, The Minnesota Historical Society, 1946. 15 maps. \$.50.)

This booklet portrays successive stages in the partitioning of the interior Northwest up to the time of Minnesota's emergence as a state. The main burden of telling the story, opening with the Minnesota area as an undifferentiated portion of the French empire, falls upon a sequence of maps of which the fifteenth and last shows Minnesota upon reaching statehood in 1858 within its present boundaries. Added help is provided by brief explanatory texts on facing pages.

Neither map nor text is intended to answer all the questions which may arise concerning Minnesota's varied career as a political entity. The maps "show roughly the evolution of Minnesota's boundaries," says the foreword — a desirable end accomplished by bold and skillful execution of essential features and the elimination of lesser ones. The mapdiagrams — for such they are, rather than true maps — are well adapted to the purposes. They occupy that much-sought-for but rarely attained ground which lies between cartographic excess, confusing to the average reader, and over-generalization.

Significant dates and periods have been chosen for map representation: for example, from 1787 to 1800 when northeastern Minnesota was in the Northwest Territory, and from 1809 to 1818 when this area, east of the Mississippi, was transferred to Illinois Territory. During the next forty years of state making, the partitioning process was accelerated. Half the maps thus portray this epoch which saw the creation of the territories of Michigan, Wisconsin, and Iowa, all of which overspread or shared the Minnesota area. Readers will be interested to note that the Minnesota country was without organized government for a brief period before Minnesota Territory was created, just as, at an earlier time (1821-34), Minnesota West was a government orphan. For better or for worse, Minnesota was spared boundary disputes as prolonged and heated as those which raged during the early days of the five states carved out of the territory northwest of the Ohio River. Interstate disputes over boundaries were not without their benefits, as Dr. M. M. Quaife has ob1946

served. Writing in reference to the Michigan-Ohio controversy over the east-west line, sometimes called the Harris Line, which separates them, Dr. Quaife observes that "few issues have so closely unified the people of Michigan as this one."

This useful summary of text and map, prepared by Mary W. Berthel and designed by Jane McCarthy, becomes the first in a projected centennial series which will doubtless culminate three years hence. Its publication suggests a related study of Minnesota's boundaries as they might have been according to various proposals. Had Jefferson's scheme of 1784 been approved, for example, northeastern Minnesota would have become part of a state of Sylvania. Map form could also be given to legislative proposals for the state's area and boundaries; many were delivered, well considered or otherwise, during that stirring decade when territorial Minnesota was aspiring to the dignity and privileges of a state.

RALPH H. BROWN

Calendar of the American Fur Company's Papers (American Historical Association, Annual Report for the Year 1944, vols. 2 and 3). In two parts. Part 1, 1831–1840; part 2, 1841–1849. (Washington, United States Government Printing Office, 1945. xi, 1951 p. \$2.00.)

More than twenty years ago, the papers of the American Fur Company, preserved by the New York Historical Society, were "rediscovered," for purposes of historical scholarship, by Dr. Grace Lee Nute, curator of manuscripts of the Minnesota Historical Society. Appreciating the value of this collection to students of the fur trade and the history of the West in general, Dr. Nute organized a group of libraries and historical societies to underwrite the preparation of a calendar of the manuscripts. The calendar was successfully completed and has for a number of years been extensively used by students and historians.

The wealth of general historical information embodied in the typewritten calendar made it seem desirable to make it available to a wider circle of scholars, and it was decided to reproduce it in one of the Annual Reports of the American Historical Association, using the lithoprint process as a means of eliminating the cost which would have been involved in proofreading if the ordinary letterpress method had been used. Preceding the published calendar is a reprint of an article by Dr. Nute entitled "The Papers of the American Fur Company: A Brief 130

Estimate of Their Significance," which originally appeared in the American Historical Review for April, 1927. This article serves as an admirable introduction to the calendar, summarizing the history of the manuscripts and describing their contents and value to students of American history.

Most of the papers calendared fall within the period from 1834, when John Jacob Astor withdrew from the American Fur Company, to 1847, when the affairs of the concern were in process of liquidation, following the failure and receivership of 1842. The size of the collection is revealed by the fact that more than sixteen thousand letters have been calendared, besides more than seventeen hundred additional items, including orders, invoices, accounts, material relating to trade "outfits," receipts, memoranda, etc. Almost half the letters were either written or received by Ramsay Crooks, president of the company. The value of the material cannot better be summarized than in Dr. Nute's words: "For practically every phase of American life . . . these papers hold items of interest: commerce, banking, domestic markets, politics, domestic manufactures, transportation, religious conditions, education, settlement of the West, land speculation, Indian policy, travel and travellers, the panic of 1837, foreign relations, and very many others." The unique value of these business documents, as Dr. Nute points out, consists in their virtual completeness for the period covered.

While the most obvious value of the calendar will be for the study of the fur trade in general and the American Fur Company in particular, no student of the history of the upper Mississippi Valley and Great Lakes region during the mid-nineteenth century can afford to ignore it. There are innumerable allusions to persons, places, and Indian tribes in the Minnesota area. No less than sixty-three letters to Henry H. Sibley and sixty-two written by him are calendared. The names "St. Peter's," "Fort Snelling," and "Sandy Lake" frequently appear.

The fact that the calendar was prepared under the supervision of Dr. Nute, herself an expert on the history of the fur trade, is sufficient guarantee of its accuracy and adequacy from the standpoint of scholarship. But especial mention should be made of the index, which fills no less than 251 pages. This index adds immeasurably to the practical value of the calendar. It will be a boon to the serious student and indispensable to the more casual seeker of information concerning specific persons, places, etc.

The value of the calendar and of the papers on which it is based is apparent to anyone who has examined the citations appearing in books

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and articles relating to the West which have appeared in the last decade or two. With this material as a basis, the time now seems ripe for the writing of a definitive history of the latter phase of the American Fur Company, to supplement the account of the company prior to 1834 contained in Kenneth W. Porter's biography of John Jacob Astor.

WAYNE E. STEVENS

Sir George Simpson, Overseas Governor of the Hudson's Bay Company: A Pen Picture of a Man of Action. By ARTHUR S. MORTON. (Published by Binsford-Mort for the Oregon Historical Society, 1944. xii, 310 p. Illustrations. \$4.50.)

It is not easy to tell the life story of a man like Sir George Simpson. As governor successively of two departments of the Hudson's Bay Company's territories in North America; then as governor in chief, from Atlantic to Pacific, of all the far-flung domain of the company; as fur trader, briefly, before his governorships; and, finally, as an inveterate traveler throughout his career in America from 1820 to 1860—in all these capacities he was concerned with about as many persons, places, conditions, and affairs as any one mortal could humanly be. So Mr. Morton can be congratulated with especial fervor for having turned out a book that does not confuse the reader but gives him a sense of the importance of Simpson, the complexity of his life, the great services he rendered, and, in general, his place in the development of Canada.

Yet the author never succeeds in making Simpson, the man, stand before the reader with clarity. I doubt that anyone could feel, even in Simpson's lifetime, that he knew Simpson the man! The clear figure that does emerge in the book is Simpson the administrator of the Hudson's Bay Company's policy for North America. In this book, better than anywhere else, one may find by watching Simpson exactly how the company operated in North America from 1820 to 1860. Simpson, in other words, identified himself with his employer and was able to lose his own identity in that of the Hudson's Bay Company. Not least of Mr. Morton's achievements is the use of literally thousands of documents by or about Simpson without being overwhelmed by them. In this respect he has come a great distance, indeed, since his *History of the Canadian West* appeared in 1939.

This biography is divided not chronologically, except in the two opening chapters, but by topics. It is by this method alone that the author

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is able to present a simple account of a very intricate life. Only those who have followed Simpson's career year after year through almost numberless letters from his own pen and through fascinating accounts of him in reports, diaries, letters, and reminiscences from the pens of fur traders, missionaries, travelers, and a host of other persons — only such persons can appreciate fully how the author must have disciplined himself in making his selection of usable material. Perhaps he will be criticized for paring too close to the core. Certainly there is something of a dearth of color and human warmth in the book; but, as I have already pointed out, Simpson himself was lacking in just those qualities.

The volume is annotated in a thoroughly scholarly fashion. There is an index, and several plates of illustrations are scattered through the book. The end papers are formed by a map of Canada showing company trading posts and other places that figured in Simpson's life. Unfortunately it has been reduced so far in printing that it can be used only with the aid of a magnifying glass.

GRACE LEE NUTE

Theodore Roosevelt and the Progressive Movement. By GEORGE E. Mowry. (Madison, The University of Wisconsin Press, 1946. viii, 405 p. Illustrations. \$4.00.)

This intensely interesting, well-written, and carefully documented volume recaptures the spirit of the years when the Progressive movement split the Republican party from stem to stern, administered the most disastrous defeat ever suffered by a Republican president, gave the impulse to the organization of a new party whose candidate won second place in the electoral and popular vote, assured the election of a Democratic president under whose leadership Congress enacted into law a long list of progressive measures, and finally fell victim to war, self-seeking men, and blind reaction for which the Republican party has paid the penalty down to the present moment. Mr. Mowry has read the evidence extracted from the rich manuscript correspondence of men who played prominent parts in the political drama, supplemented by material found in public documents, newspapers, periodicals, autobiographies, memoirs, and published letters; and he appraises men and events with penetration and fairness worthy of the best traditions of historical scholarship. Through 1912 Theodore Roosevelt is the hero of his story; after that fateful year his hero shuffles off the Progressive coil and becomes an embittered man, with an exaggerated ego, politically ambitious until his 1946 MOWRY: ROOSEVELT AND THE PROGRESSIVES

sudden death in 1919, "as unfair as any man consumed with anger can be."

The narrative begins with a careful and lively survey of events and personalities associated with Roosevelt's administration and an appreciation of the president's influence in promoting progressive legislation. The strenuous executive is credited with honest progressive convictions and achievements over the opposition from powerful leaders in his own party who were dominated by a cabal of elder statesmen in the Senate. President Taft, on the other hand, was a half-hearted, if not insincere, progressive - lazy, vacillating, a novice at politics, and a poor executive. He was no match for such parliamentary and forensic giants as Aldrich, La Follette, Dolliver, and Beveridge. Mr. Mowry concludes that Roosevelt had ample reasons for turning against his successor in the White House; he presents evidence that his erstwhile friend played him and the progressives false. The Democrats in the Senate do not come off well: they were on occasion willing to sell out the progressives for an equivalent to themselves or to the interests of their section. Certain states where feelings between progressives and standpatters ran high are singled out to illustrate political maneuvering. In the famous Ballinger-Pinchot controversy the verdict is against the secretary of the interior, who was "innocent of corruption" and "also innocent of being a conservationist." Mr. Mowry is not impressed by the attempt of Secretary Harold Ickes to vindicate Ballinger in an article in the Saturday Evening Post. Neither does he accept Pringle's defense of the unpopular secretary in his biography of Taft.

Among the many irritations from the White House, the institution of the suit against the steel corporation by Taft's attorney general was the most provocative in causing Roosevelt to contest the Republican presidential nomination in 1912. That was a reflection on his integrity in acquiescing in the absorption of the Tennessee Coal and Iron Company by the United States Steel Corporation. Mr. Mowry uncovers unpleasant facts pertaining to Roosevelt's pre-convention campaign and to the conduct of his campaign as the candidate of the Progressive party: huge sums of money to "put Roosevelt across," friction in the Progressive camp, support of notorious machine politicians, and the like. He displays the intrigues and chicanery practiced at the Progressive and Republican conventions in 1916 and explains how Roosevelt and George W. Perkins sold out the Progressives. (In an article which appeared in the American Historical Review, Mr. Ickes omits Roosevelt's name in that sordid busi-

ness.) Chapter 13 is a striking commentary on the vicissitudes, dishonesty, and selfishness of politics and the fickleness of mankind: capitalists and journalists who in 1912 had called Roosevelt a "cheat" and a "liar" favored his nomination on the Republican ticket in 1916, and by that time "malefactors" and "second-story men" whom Roosevelt had denounced from coast to coast had become his confidants and heroes. Even the later notorious Albert B. Fall of Teapot Dome fame embodied the "best American Spirit"; and Nelson W. Aldrich, the bête noire of the Progressives, "was a much better man from the standpoint of the country at large" than La Follette. Roosevelt's animosity against President Wilson, which grew until it reached the "point of mental aberration," explains to a large degree his coolness toward the Progressives and his cordial relations with the kingpins of the old standpat crowd. Wilson's proposed treaty to requite the wrong done to Colombia by Roosevelt's impulsive action in the Panama business was one of the chief ingredients in the "amalgam" of Roosevelt's hatred for Wilson.

State pride perhaps dictates the sounding of one note of disharmony in this review. One could wish for a little more attention to Minnesota, a state whose Senators and Congressmen, with two exceptions, voted against the Payne-Aldrich tariff, which gave Roosevelt its electoral vote, and which carried on the crusade against predatory interests for many years after Roosevelt was gathered to his fathers. But it is uphill work even for a provincial Minnesotan to find fault with a book whose author and publisher have collaborated to achieve excellence.

George M. Stephenson

Old World Wisconsin: Around Europe in the Badger State. By FRED L. HOLMES. (Eau Claire, E. M. Hale and Company, 1944. 368 p. Illustrations. \$2.50.)

This is a delightful book, both physically and in content. Within brief compass it takes up the outstanding foreign groups throughout Wisconsin, telling of their unique customs and contributions. Swiss, Belgian, Irish, French-Canadian, Scandinavian, Dutch, Cornish, Slavonic, and Finnish settlements are all included, besides some others. A Wisconsin artist has drawn many sketches to illustrate the volume; and in addition there are scores of excellent photographs, a map, and a colored frontispiece.

Minnesotans will be interested especially in the foreign groups in the St. Croix Valley, at Superior, and along the Mississippi from Prescott to

Prairie du Chien and a little beyond — in other words, along the Wisconsin-Minnesota boundary. It is surprising how many nationalities are represented there: French-Canadians at Superior; Swedes and Finns down to Grantsburg, with a colony of Russians near Frederic; French-Canadians again at Somerset and Eau Claire; Slovaks between these two towns, and Slovenes just back of the Swiss groups on Lake Pepin; Hollanders just above La Crosse; Norwegians next; then French-Canadians at Prairie du Chien; and finally, Cornishmen in the extreme southwestern corner of the state in the lead mine area. It makes a Minnesotan sigh for just such a volume for our own unique and interesting foreign groups.

G.L.N.

Western Reserve University: Centennial History of the School of Medicine. By FREDERICK CLAYTON WAITE. (Cleveland, Western Reserve University Press, 1946. xiii, 588 p. Illustrations. \$6.00.)

Official centennial volumes usually turn out to be dreary compilations of statistics, eulogies, and obituaries. Professor Waite, however, is not only a histologist with forty years of experience in Western Reserve University, but he is also a historian in his own right. Hence he views this distinguished medical school not as an isolated event occurring in a vacuum, but as part of the rapidly changing pattern of American medicine.

What was to become the Western Reserve University school of medicine was founded in 1843 in a manner usual in those days — in other words, as the result of a factional fight in the neighboring Willoughby "University." At that time a majority of American physicians had not had instruction in any medical school. Instead they had been trained by the preceptorial system. One served an apprenticeship with a practicing physician, read medicine with "the old doctor," worked as his assistant, and after three years received a "certificate of proficiency." This certificate, when registered with the town clerk, granted the apprentice the right to "ride alone"; that is, to assume the legal status of an independent practitioner.

The few medical institutions that were organized as departments of established universities made slow progress, both because of the expense involved, and also because of the hostility of the physicians who enjoyed the benefit of apprentices under the preceptor system. As a result, the majority of the medical schools formed in the first half of the nineteenth century were independent "proprietary" organizations. They were created by small groups of practitioners who constituted themselves professors,

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taught courses, handed out diplomas, and at the end of the session divided as profits whatever remained of the tuition fees. This "division of the spoils" was not infrequently the subject of considerable acrimony, and on occasion faculty meetings adjourned in fisticuffs. Though the Western Reserve medical school combined the preceptorial and the proprietary systems in the first forty years of its existence, the author does not recount any outbreaks of physical violence. The index, however, has twenty entries under the word "dissension," and Professor Waite mentions at least one "evening meeting" of the faculty that lasted until well after sunrise!

During its first half century the school was anything but a calm cloister of learning. There was factionalism within the walls and competition of rival regular medical schools without. There were also numerous schools of bizarre medical cults, each with its own factionalism, and each now embalmed in the quiet morgue of medical history. There were state laws which made the crime of grave robbing a necessity in order to secure dissection material. Finally, even the charter of the school was the object of a prolonged battle in the legislature between the railroad lobby, which wished to build up the town of Willoughby, and the canal lobby, which wanted to strengthen Cleveland.

The success of Western Reserve in those troubled years depended primarily upon the character of the founders. Each of these men becomes convincingly human and colorfully alive in this narrative. It is unfortunate (but easily understandable) that the author found it necessary to "pull his punches" in describing the medical staff of the past forty years. It is, indeed, probable that the faculty has not had discordant meetings recently because a horse that had been accepted in payment for tuition was discovered to suffer from "the heaves." But there is good reason to suspect that the professors of our own day have as many foibles and as much pugnacity as anyone in the times of Horace Ackley or Gustav Weber. Since men now living can sue for libel, it is forgivable that historians should write with less restraint about the more remote past.

In one hundred years the pattern of American medical education has evolved from the preceptorial or apprenticeship system through the stage of the proprietary medical college and finally to the status of the fullfledged university medical school. The history of Western Reserve University is the story of this adventurous and crucial century.

FREDERICK C. LENDRUM

Art in Red Wing (The Community Basis for Postwar Planning, no. 6). By LAURENCE E. SCHMECKEBIER. (Minneapolis, The University of Minnesota Press, 1946. 88 p. Illustrations. \$1.00.)

All too frequently "scholarly" interpretations of a living community emerge as dead statistical tabulations, which, despite their recognized accuracy, only succeed in straining out the last elements of individualism. The people are lost. And when one loses the folk, one loses the community.

To Mr. Schmeckebier was given the task of revealing and evaluating the arts of Red Wing, an attractive small city located on the banks of the Mississippi River at the head of beautiful Lake Pepin. The results of his study, presented in twenty-one chapters, complete another survey in a series of research projects sponsored by a grant from the graduate school of the University of Minnesota and entitled *The Community Basis for Postwar Planning*.

Mr. Schmeckebier's assignment was difficult, for it is no simple matter to make a sound inventory of the art experiences of a small town. Fortunately, he had been thinking about the arts in relation to a people's culture for a long time. He knew that "art" in the larger sense was far more than strict adherence to Aristotle's principles of aesthetics and went far deeper into the nature of man's appreciation than a mechanical genuflection to old "masters." Art was something that the common man judged to be of value whether it was a cigar-store Indian, a merchandizing display, a cemetery angel, a classic revival farmhouse, a Gothic home, or an example of Red Wing pottery. Mr. Schmeckebier scorns the idea that "art has nothing to do with the realities of life" and stubbornly proves his point by demonstrating the existence of art in almost every phase of the business, industrial, and social life of the community.

The historical, descriptive approach used by the author yields some surprising results: the content and intellectual level of the programs undertaken by the Art History Club were highly creditable; Red Wing is better supplied with equipment and personnel for the teaching of art than are St. Paul and Minneapolis; the Red Wing Training School, an institution for juvenile delinquents, is one of the outstanding architectural monuments in the community; business architecture, unlike industrial architecture, has to deal with more abstract problems of style and decoration in order to give pleasure and satisfaction both to merchant and customer; the creative efforts of designer, manufacturer, and distributor of

Red Wing pottery primarily are concerned with sales and not with beauty ("it smells but it sells!"); and "There is such a thing as art to be found in the average small community."

To be sure Mr. Schmeckebier does not seem to approve of all the types of art he found in Red Wing. Although he does not specifically say so, one gathers that he is a bit bothered by the mixing together of handmade art and mechanically made art, that he is disturbed by the juxtaposition of classical simplicity and modernistic ornateness, and that even his kindly tolerance cringes at some of the stuff being produced by the pottery industry. Yet he never intrudes his own prejudices in this admirably objective, yet very human, survey of the artistic experiences of a community. In a very real sense, his work is a pioneering effort in social and regional history and one that merits the closest attention of countless critics who have damned the American small town as both soulless and artless.

Philip D. Jordan

Meet Tom Cooney. By MILDRED HOUGHTON COMFORT. (Minneapolis, The Lund Press, Inc., 1945. 164 p. Portrait. \$2.50.)

This charming little book preserves the memories of one whose lifetime reaches back to the pioneer days in Minnesota and the Northwest. After a brief childhood in England, Tom Cooney came to Minnesota in 1859. His father had preceded the family and had taken up land near Afton, where Tom grew to maturity on the family farm.

Farm work and school teaching did not satisfy the ambitions of young Cooney. He decided to become an engineer, and in 1874 he entered the University of Minnesota, which at that time consisted of one building perched on the edge of the wilderness. Lack of funds interrupted his studies in 1878 and sent him to the Red River Valley, where, as farmer and schoolteacher, he accumulated enough funds to finish his schooling in 1881.

At that time the northern transcontinental railroad route was being explored, and Tom Cooney helped to make railroad surveys in the Dakotas, Montana, Wyoming, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. The surveys were pushed without regard to season, even through the high plains' winters of bitter cold, drifting snow, and blizzards. In the summers Cooney watched the buffalo hunters skinning their kills and saw the half-breeds gather the refuse of the old high plains' culture — heaps of buffalo bones — for the sugar refineries.

In the space of a brief review it is not possible to reflect the flavor of this book. It is recommended that the reader sample it for himself. The author is to be congratulated for preserving the reminiscences of Tom Cooney, who, as farmer, schoolteacher, railroad surveyor, timber cruiser, gold miner, and soldier, participated in the development of the Northwest.

Rodney C. Loehr

Minnesota Historical Society Activities

MR. RUSSELL F. BARNES became the society's librarian on April 1, succeeding Miss Krausnick, who resigned late in 1945. Mr. Barnes is a graduate of Miami University at Oxford, Ohio, and he received a master's degree in library science from Columbia University in 1943. Following that he entered the army, serving for three years with the Headquarters Army Ground Forces in Washington, D. C. He has been connected with the staffs of the Miami University library, the Dayton, Ohio, Public Library, and the Washington Square Library of New York University. On March 15 the society's executive committee authorized a new permanent position on the staff-that of research associate-to which Miss Nute was appointed. The manuscript division is now under the direction of the librarian, with Miss Catherine Flinspach in charge. Mr. Babcock, who has long served the society as curator of its museum, in January succeeded Mr. Hodnefield, who retired, as curator of newspapers. Taking Mr. Babcock's place in the museum is Mr. G. Hubert Smith of Minneapolis, a graduate of the University of Minnesota who did graduate work in anthropology in the University of Chicago for two years before he enlisted in the army medical department in 1941. The three and a half years of military service that followed included more than a year of sea duty. Before 1939, Mr. Smith had several years of experience with the National Park Service and the Minnesota division of state parks; and he directed the excavations on the site of old Fort Ridgely, a project that he described in the issue of this magazine for June, 1939.

Dr. Lewis Beeson, who as acting superintendent of the society guided its work through the war years from September, 1942, to December, 1945, was elected secretary of the Michigan Historical Commission at a meeting held in Ypsilanti on February 12. He will take up his new duties on July 1, succeeding Dr. George N. Fuller, who is retiring. The commission has its headquarters in Lansing.

Mr. Richard R. Sackett, who became field director of the society late in 1945, is representing it in its relations with the state's local historical societies, visiting their museums, furnishing technical advice, and assisting them to carry out their general programs. He is also supervising investigations of historic sites, and working with communities and groups that plan to erect markers commemorating historic sites or events. In addition Mr. Sackett prepares the society's monthly mimeographed "Publication and News Releases" and special news stories about the society's activities issued to newspapers and other publications.

Twin City newspapers, including the *Pioneer Press*, the *Dispatch*, the *Shopper*, the *Midway News*, and the *Review* of St. Paul, and the *Journal*, the *Times*, and the *Weekly News* of Minneapolis, in the first three months of 1946 devoted nearly four hundred column inches of space to stories and other items about the society and its activities. They gave publicity to staff changes, new appointments, the Kenneth Becker and Pennsylvania German baptismal certificate displays, the society's Bible and valentine collections, Sinclair Lewis' visit to the Historical Building, the society's Washington portrait, the March 4 meeting, and many similar matters. The society received attention also in many newspapers published in smaller communities, including the *Kimball Kodak*, which printed an editorial about its work in the issue for February 28.

The index for volume 26 of *Minnesota History*, which is now in the hands of the printer, will be ready for distribution about July 15. As soon as it has been completed, a limited number of full volumes for 1945 will be bound to match earlier volumes in the series. They will be available at the cost of binding and mailing — one dollar — to anyone who returns the four issues published last year.

An exhibit of water-color paintings by Kenneth Becker, depicting some early buildings most of which still are standing in Illinois, Wisconsin, and Minnesota, was featured in the society's museum from February 1 to 28. It was followed from March 1 to 31 by a display of stamps from the extensive collection of Mr. Charles L. Horn of Minneapolis. The showing of full sheets of stamps gave the latter display unusual interest. In the winter and early spring months a number of less extensive exhibits were arranged. Pennsylvania German birth and baptismal certificates, largely drawn from the museum of the Lake Pepin Valley Historical Society at Lake City, were on display from January 1 to February 28. During the course of the St. Paul Winter Carnival, from February 22 to March 6, mementos of past carnivals, including pictures, posters, badges, costumes, and other colorful items, were displayed. Most of them were loaned by Mr. E. R. Reiff of North St. Paul. Materials reflecting the history of the Mantorville Express, an early Dodge County newspaper that ceased publication in February, were placed on view in the museum on March 13.

Mr. Babcock is the author of two articles appearing in the *Minnesota Archaeologist* for October. In the first he describes the "Taliaferro Map of the St. Peters Indian Agency," and in the second he presents contemporary evidence of "Sioux Villages in Minnesota Prior to 1837." A facsimile reproduction of the Taliaferro map, which Mr. Babcock found among the archives of the Indian office in Washington in 1928, appears with his article on the subject. It shows the area about the St. Peter's Indian agency as Taliaferro, the agent, knew it in 1835. Indian villages, missions, trading posts, and the like are carefully located.

Professor Ford's article on "Southern Minnesota Pioneer Journalism," which appeared in the March issue of this magazine, has been reprinted in pamphlet form in an edition of a thousand copies by the Minnesota Editorial Association for distribution among its members and schools of journalism throughout the United States. The joint review of two recent books on immigration and American minorities contributed to the same issue by Professor Kolehmainen appeared in translation in a Finnish newspaper, the *Amerikan Suometar* of Hancock, Michigan, for March 5.

Mr. Juho Rissanen's painting of a Finnish farmstead in Minnesota, which was presented to the society by the Minnesota Finnish-American Historical Society in 1944, is reproduced in the December number of the *American-Scandinavian Review*. With the picture appears a brief note about the artist and his canvas.

The "Roll of Members" published in the December issue of this magazine draws the attention of a writer in the *Stillwater Gazette* for January 14, who notes that "Only One County Tops Washington" in the proportion of members of the Minnesota Historical Society to total population. In October of last year, Washington County had 7.9 members for each ten thousand people recorded in the 1940 census, whereas Ramsey County had 13.3.

The deaths of four active members — James C. Michael of St. Paul, George P. Flannery of South Haven, George Sommers of St. Paul, and Dr. Thomas S. Roberts of Minneapolis — were reported to the society in the quarter ending on April 30.

An invitation to Minnesota teachers to "arrange visits of their classes to the museum of the Minnesota Historical Society" appears in the *Minnesota Journal of Education* for April.

MEETINGS

By the end of March, 5,740 visitors had signed the register that was placed on a desk in the corridor on the first floor of the society's building when the guard service was instituted six months earlier. Represented on the register arç visitors from forty-six states and from three foreign countries, Canada, China, and England.

In order to study museum methods employed elsewhere, from March 16 to 23 Mr. Smith visited the Illinois State Museum at Springfield, the outdoor museum in New Salem State Park near the same place, and the Milwaukee Public Museum.

As part of a program looking toward the permanent preservation of Fort Snelling and its remaining buildings, the superintendent spoke on "The Shadow of Old Fort Snelling" before the Inter-Professional Men's Club of St. Paul on February 7 and the Lion's Club of St. Paul on February 25. "Lake Superior" was the subject of talks given by Miss Nute before the Kiwanis Club of St. Paul on February 4 and the Duluth Woman's Club on March 29; she reviewed the history of the "Yellow Medicine River Trading Post" for members of the Minnesota Archaeological Society meeting in Minneapolis on March 5; and she spoke on "Mining for Iron Range History" before the Minneapolis Woman's Club on March 14. Mr. Sackett gave talks on "Local History Work" for the Sibley County Historical Society at Henderson on February 1, on "The County Historical Society and the Community" at a meeting of the Washington County Historical Society in Stillwater on March 2, and on "Minnesota as a Territory" before the Tower Club of Unity Church in St. Paul on March 3.

MEETINGS

Two open meetings held in the spring when weather conditions are more favorable than in midwinter took the place of the programs and sessions usually associated with the society's annual meeting in January (see *ante*, p. 45, 46). The first, on Monday, March 4, took the form of a luncheon at the St. Paul Hotel. About a hundred and seventy-five people assembled for this event, which commemorated the ninety-seventh anniversary of the passage by Congress on March 3, 1849, of the act establishing Minnesota Territory. Judge Kenneth Brill, the society's president, opened the program by introducing Dean Theodore C. Blegen of the graduate school in the University of Minnesota, who presided. He called first upon Dr. Horace Morse, director of the university's general college and chair-

man of the society's school committee, who has taken the lead in developing the Junior Historian program. Dr. Morse explained the contests for a chapter activities plan and for a prize essay that are open to members of Junior Historian chapters, announced the winners in the former contests, and awarded the prizes. The first prize of ten dollars and three books about the history of the state was received by Theodora Pankratz for the Mountain Lake chapter; Maurine Dion, who represented the Waterville chapter, was given the second prize of five dollars and two books; and a third prize of one dollar and a book went to Norine Miller of the Lakeville chapter. Each of the prize-winning chapters was represented at the meeting by both a student member and a faculty sponsor.

Judge Brill next read the letter from Governor Thye, published *ante*, p. 45, which entrusts the society with the responsibility for preparing a "plan which the people of the state can adopt as the official program of commemoration" of the territorial centennial in 1949. Representing the Governor was his secretary, Mr. Carl Weicht, who gave assurance of the former's interest in the coming centennial and called upon the society to plan a year-long celebration — an observance of such scope and significance that all groups and all sections of the state can take part in it.

To present the main address of the afternoon Dr. Solon J. Buck, superintendent of the society from 1914 to 1931 and now archivist of the United States, returned to St. Paul and Minnesota. In introducing him, Dr. Blegen reminded the audience that the Minnesota Historical Society owes its modern phase to Dr. Buck, who planned its building and established its present organization. The speaker took as his subject "The Planting of Civilization in Minnesota," developing his theme by comparing the occupation and settlement of the North Star State with that of western Pennsylvania, the region about which he made a detailed study immediately after leaving Minnesota in the early 1930's. The physical environment, the cultural heritage of the people, and the time or period of settlement, declared Dr. Buck, are the three major factors that condition the story of the planting of civilization in any region. He then went on to show how these factors have affected the two regions he knows so well. He closed by recommending that the society's plans for the 1949 centennial should include "something permanent" in the way of organizing, editing, and publishing material on Minnesota's formative period.

A second meeting, consisting of three sessions on April 12, met the needs satisfied for more than twenty years by annual conferences on local history work in Minnesota in connection with the society's annual meet-

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ings. In addition to representatives of local historical societies throughout the state, teachers and others concerned with the Junior Historians' program were invited to attend the meeting in order that the mutual interests of the two groups might be defined and discussed.

About fifty people, including representatives of twelve local historical societies, assembled in the auditorium of the Historical Building for the morning session. Dr. Arthur J. Larsen, the society's superintendent, announced that the meeting had been called in order to bring about the formation of a permanent Local History Conference of the Minnesota Historical Society — an organization that could serve as a clearinghouse for local groups and their problems, would have its own officers, and would be represented unofficially through its president at the meetings of the executive council of the state society. Until recently, he said, the state society had lacked the facilities and the staff necessary for the sponsorship of such a conference, but the recent appointment of a field director, made possible by an appropriation from the 1945 legislature, changed the situation. Dr. Larsen then introduced Mr. Richard R. Sackett, the newly appointed field director.

Participating in the discussion that followed Dr. Larsen's remarks was Mr. Dana Frear of the Hennepin County society, who emphasized the fact that a state federation would be particularly helpful in obtaining financial aid for local societies. The formal organization of the conference followed; Mr. Sackett was named permanent secretary; Dr. Richard Bardon of Duluth, president of the St. Louis County Historical Society, was elected temporary president; and he appointed a committee to draw up bylaws for the organization. Its membership includes Mrs. Bunn T. Willson of the Olmsted County society, Mr. Frear, Dr. Larsen, and Mr. Sackett. The program of organization and activities suggested by Dr. Larsen was adopted by a unanimous vote.

More than fifty people attended a luncheon session at the St. Paul Athletic Club designed for the Junior Historian chapters. Professor A. C. Krey of the University of Minnesota, a member of the society's executive council, presided. He introduced Mr. Elmer Weltzin, who brought a word of hearty endorsement for the society's school program from the state department of education, which he represented. Dr. Morse, who spoke next, described the Junior Historian movement, told how to organize a chapter, explained the contests sponsored by the state society, and revealed that a scholarship in the University of Minnesota valued at seventy-five dollars is among the prizes offered in a forthcoming essay contest. One of the winning chapters in an earlier contest was represented on the present program, Dr. Krey announced in introducing the next speaker, Miss Betty Merle Miller of Waterville. Any doubts those present might have entertained about the value of the Junior Historian program were dispelled as they listened to this ninth-grade pupil's charming and enthusiastic report of the work accomplished by her chapter. It appears in full in the section of this magazine devoted to "Minnesota History and the Schools." When Miss Miller had completed her remarks, Dr. Larsen rose to suggest some possible tie-ups between the county historical societies and the Junior Historians, pointing out that most of the chapters now organized are in areas that lack local societies. A charter was then presented to the most recently organized chapter — that of the Technical High School of St. Cloud — which was represented by its sponsor, Miss Gertrude Gove.

The newly organized Local History Conference convened at the Historical Building at 2:30 P.M. to discuss the problems and needs of the local historical societies. Mr. Frederick Jenkins, president of the Rice County Historical Society, spoke first, telling how his society has financed its activities. He gave special attention to the Alexander Faribault house, which has been purchased for the society by the Faribault Foundation. The latter organization has also made available funds sufficient for the restoration and maintenance of the house, which the society expects to use as a museum. Some two hundred dollars from membership dues and an appropriation of three hundred dollars from the county commissioners comprise other financial resources of the Rice County society. Dr. Bardon next described the St. Louis County society's housing problems, telling of quarters occupied in the courthouse and near the campus of the Duluth Teachers College, as well as of possibilities for the future. Among those who participated in the discussion that concluded the session were Miss Gove of the Stearns County organization, Mr. O. D. Sell of Carver County, Mrs. Mary Bailey of the Washington County society, and Mr. Frear.

JUNIOR HISTORIANS

A high school student at Mountain Lake, Roald Tweet, has received the first prize in the essay contest conducted by the Minnesota Historical Society for members of Junior Historical societies in the schools of the state. Since the winner is a freshman, he could not accept the Josiah and Sarah Lothrop scholarship of seventy-five dollars in the University of

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Minnesota, and he was given instead fifty dollars in cash. Members of Junior Historian chapters at International Falls, Lakeville, and St. Cloud received the five additional prizes awarded in the contest. The second prize of twenty-five dollars and a book about some phase of Minnesota history went to Joan Savard of International Falls; the third prize, consisting of fifteen dollars and a book, went to Mary Lou Allis of Lakeville; Lois Kilde of International Falls received a bound volume of Minnesota History as the fourth prize; the fifth, a copy of The Doctors Mayo by Helen Clapesattle, went to Donna Johnson of International Falls; and Gordon Erickson of St. Cloud, whose essay was awarded sixth place, not only received a copy of Minnesota under Four Flags, but a seal and blue ribbon were added to the charter of his chapter. The essays submitted were judged by a committee consisting of Dr. Horace Morse, director of the general college in the University of Minnesota and chairman of the society's school committee; Mr. Carl Cole, a member of the faculty of Roosevelt High School, Minneapolis; and Miss Margaret D. Downing, a teacher of history in Johnson High School, St. Paul. The prize essays will be considered for publication in this magazine.

"The teacher who cannot appreciate the community in which her school is located is overlooking a source of living power," writes Edgar B. Wesley in the February *Bulletin* of the Minnesota Council for the Social Studies. Under the title "A New Approach to Community Resources," Professor Wesley contributes to the *Bulletin* an excerpt from his forthcoming book on *Teaching Social Studies in Elementary Schools*. He advises every teacher to read a history of the community or the county in which she is teaching.

The organization of a Junior Historian chapter at Grand Rapids is announced in the *Grand Rapids Herald-Review* for February 14. Illustrating the story is a photograph of the nine high-school students who comprise the chapter, with their sponsor, Miss Maude DeBoer, and the school principal, Mr. C. N. Mickelson, who serves as a co-sponsor. A second co-sponsor is Mr. L. A. Rossman, publisher of the *Herald-Review* and a member of the executive council of the Minnesota Historical Society. As its initial project, the chapter is undertaking the preparation of a history of the local school district. "The work will be outlined so it will be completed in about a year and a half," according to the present announcement, which adds that "all phases of the development of the district as it is today will be studied." First-page headlines in the *Mountain Lake Observer* of February 21 carry prominently the announcement that the local "Junior Historians Win First Place in Historical Contest" sponsored by the Minnesota Historical Society. The chapter, of which Miss Elsa Kettler is the local sponsor, was represented by its secretary, Miss Theodora Pankratz, at the state society's meeting of March 4. For its plan of activities for the year, the chapter received a prize of ten dollars and three books about Minnesota history. A display of pioneer objects arranged in a local store window by the Junior Historians is described in the *Observer*.

A sketch class conducted by Mrs. Blanche K. Baughman in the Jordan Junior High School of Minneapolis is planning to decorate the walls of the school cafeteria and stairway landings with murals "picturing contributions to our state in different stages of its growth by peoples of many racial and nationality groups." Groups of from two to five students are assembling material for pictorial representations of Indian food production and crafts, French and British traders, old Fort Snelling, a pioneer farm, an early school, a frontier general store, early industrial projects, and modern cities, sports, and the like. In their search for material, Mrs. Baughman and sixty-eight students visited the society's museum on March 13 and heard a talk by the curator, Mr. Smith.

A report on a trip to Waseca by pupils in the fourth, fifth, seventh, and eighth grades at Otisco appears in the *New Richland Star* for February 21. The pupils, who are engaged in learning "How Historians Think and Work," visited the museum of the Waseca County Historical Society, the local newspaper office, and the plants of a number of business concerns.

New Members

During the three months from February 1 to April 30, the 145 active and institutional members whose names follow joined the society. At the beginning of the period covered by this figure the society had 1,793 members; at its close the membership had reached a total of 1,907. Of the new members, 34 are residents of Hennepin County, 39 of Ramsey, and 63 of other Minnesota counties, while 9 live in states other than Minnesota.

The arrangement by counties, communities, and states is like that used for the lists published in December and March. Symbols used to indicate types of membership are (A) for annual, (C) for corresponding, (H) for honorary, (I) for institutional, (L) for life, and (S) for sustaining.

MINNESOTA MEMBERS ANOKA Anoka Chambers, Allen S. (A) Ehlen, R. B. (A) Bethel Ledin, Wendell L. (A) BLUE EARTH Mankato Miller, Herman W. (A) Mapleton Will, L. J. (A) BROWN New Ulm Flor, Albert D. (A) **CHIPPEWA** Montevideo Aaker, Roland N. (A) Haugland, J. O. (A) CHISAGO Center City Stolberg, Alfred P. (A) Wennerberg, S. Bernhard (A) North Branch North Branch Review (I) CLAY Moorhead Hagen, Dr. O. J. (A) COTTONWOOD Mountain Lake Dick, P. B. (A) Mountain Lake Public Library (I) Pankratz, Dr. Peter J. (A) Pankratz, Mrs. Peter J. (A) CROW WING Brainerd Johnson, Frank B. (A) DAKOTA South St. Paul Headley, Louis S. (A) DOUGLAS Alexandria Thornton, R. S. (A)

FARIBAULT Kiester Talle, B. A. (A) FREEBORN Albert Lea Ostrander, L. H. (A) Hollandale Hollandale Public Schools (I) GOODHUE Kenyon Watson, W. T. (A) GRANT Herman Independent School District No. 3 (I) HENNEPIN Excelsior Arnold, Victor C. (A) Hopkins Vesely, Joseph C. (A) Minneapolis Allard, Raymond L. (A) Blitz, Anne D. (A) Duncan, William, Jr. (A) Gustafson, G. M. (A) Hansen, L. L. (A) Hanson, George E. (A) Healy, John M. (A) Johnson, Carroll N. (A) Johnson, Vincent (A) Joscelyn, Austin E. (A) McDowell, Tremaine (A) McEleney, James (A) Miner, Andrew M. (A) Montgomery, Edmund T. (A) Moore, Seward R. (A) Morrison, John S. (A) Noonan, Charles F. (A) Rachie, Elias (A) Raines, Dr. Richard C. (A) Richards, Carmen N. (A) Roan, Morton (S) Rottschaefer, Henry (A) Sirich, Mrs. Edward H. (A) Smith, Jay W. (A) Walker, Stuart G. (A) Wangensteen, Theodore H. (A) Williamson, George F. (A)

Wilson, Charles A. (A) Woolley, Lee P. (A) Young, Hugh (A) Robbinsdale Hartig, Henry E. (A) St. Louis Park Haynes, Edward (A) ISANTI Cambridge Olson, H. E. (A) Roth, Harold C. (A) KANABEC Mora McIlhargey, K. E. (A) KOOCHICHING International Falls Abbott, M. M. (A) Palmer, Harvey H. (A) LAKE OF THE WOODS Baudette Rowell, T. H. (A) LYON Minneota Peterson, Mrs. S. G. (A) Tracy Independent School District No. 30 (I) MARTIN Fairmont Fillmore, Albert E., Jr. (A) NOBLES Worthington Hughes, A. B. (A) OLMSTED Rochester Amberg, Samuel (A) Green, E. C. (A) Haines, Samuel F. (A) Hopkins, Wayne (A) Lindquist, Margaret (A)

McGhee, Flora (A)

Miner, John R. (A) Starkson, Ella J. (A)

Utzinger, L. C. (A)

Stewartville Tews, F. Avery (A) PINE Pine City Pine-Poker-Pioneer (I) RAMSEY St. Paul Baker, Edwin R. (A) Boss, William (A) Boy Scouts of America, St. Paul Area Council, Inc. (I) Brink, Raymond W. (S) Broady, Bruce J. (A) Buchta, J. William (A) Burns, John A. (A) Butler, Pierce (L) Cardozo, Ralph N. (S) Christenson, Otto F. (A) Cowie, Henry H. (A) Cushman, Ralph S. (A) Cushman, Mrs. Ralph S. (A) David, Quentin J. (A) Edgerton, Jay (A) Giere, Adolph E. (A) Gillmett, Lloyd R. (A) Headley, Cleon (A) Henderson, William B. (A) Hewitt, Mrs. James B. (A) Langford, Nathaniel P. (A) Loftsgaarden, Beldin H. (A) Minnesota Club (I) Mortenson, W. Allen (A) Northwest Airlines, Inc. (I) O'Donnell, Mrs. John T. (A) O'Halloran, John M. (A) Peterson, Everett L. (A) Plattes, Cv (A) Rossum, Mrs. Mary D. (A) Schauinger, J. Herman (A) Schlick, Raymond M. (A) Scott, John F. (A) Shepard, George M. (A) Soucheray, Dr. Philip H. (A) Summit School (I) Sundberg, Alfred R. (A) Wilm, George E. (A) Zehnder, John C. (A) ST. LOUIS Chisholm Wangensteen, Charles T. (A)

June

Duluth Bahnsen, Clara (A) Colbrath, Corah L. (A) Congdon Bahert (L)

Congdon, Robert (L) Hartley, Clarence J. (A) Leland, Ray L. (A) Smythe, Arthur R. (A) SIBLEY Henderson Brennan, Joseph H. (A) STEARNS Sauk Center Schwarzbauer, Stephen (A) STEELE Blooming Prairie Blooming Prairie Public Schools (I) Owatonna Lord, Samuel (A) STEVENS Morris Alger, O. K. (A) Morris Tribune (I) WASHINGTON Marine Empson, Florence (A) WATONWAN Madelia

Fling, Paul V. (A)

WINONA Winona Murphy, Leo F. (A) WRIGHT Buffalo Anderson, Albert A. (A) YELLOW MEDICINE Canby Canby Public Library (I) NONRESIDENT MEMBERS CALIFORNIA Koefod, Dr. Hilmar O. (A), Santa Barbara Mather, Kenneth A. (A), Berkeley FLORIDA Gregg, Dean B. (S), Winter Park ILLINOIS Chicago, Burlington & Quincy Railroad Co., (I), Chicago NEW YORK Norton, Fred G. (A), New York Totten, Frank M. (A), New York Williams, Frederic A. (A), New York TENNESSEE Brill, Kenneth G. (A), Chattanooga VIRGINIA Mather, William J. (A), Arlington

Contributors

The autobiographical narrative with which this issue opens was written by Judge Oscar Hallam of St. Paul a few years before his death, which occurred on September 24, 1945. It is drawn from a delightful series of sketches — authentic pictures of Northwest life in the 1870's — assembled in a manuscript volume to which Judge Hallam gave the name of the church and the district school of his youth, "Bloomfield and Number Five." Following his death, his daughter, Mrs. Cornelia H. Miller, presented a copy of the typewritten volume to the Minnesota Historical Society, and it is with her permission that the present section appears in print.

Sister Grace McDonald is a teacher of American history in the College of St. Benedict at St. Joseph. The beginnings of this Benedictine boarding school or academy for girls are reviewed in the present article. Much of the

material on which the narrative is based is preserved in the school's museum and archives, which are described elsewhere in this issue. It should be noted here, however, that it is largely through Sister Grace's efforts that the historical collection of the college and the convent has been assembled and arranged. As long ago as 1929 she contributed to this magazine an article on Father Francis Pierz.

Dr. Merrill E. Jarchow's review of the "Beginnings of Dairying in Minnesota" is one of a series dealing with economic agricultural history that he has contributed to this magazine. His article on "Livestock in Early Minnesota" appeared in June, 1945, and earlier articles dealt with such topics as farm machinery and agricultural fairs (see *ante*, 26:153). Dr. Jarchow retired from active duty in the navy, in which he held a commission as a lieutenant, senior grade, early in 1946. He is now assistant dean of men in Carleton College, Northfield.

A ninth-grade pupil from Waterville, Betty Merle Miller, prepared the report on the work of the Waterville chapter of Junior Historians published in the section on "Minnesota History and the Schools." When she read her paper before a luncheon meeting of the society on April 12, her charm of delivery and refreshing enthusiasm won the applause of all who heard her.

The society's most recent publication, *Minnesota under Four Flags*, is reviewed in this issue by Professor Ralph H. Brown of the department of geography in the University of Minnesota, who is widely known for his writings in the field of historical geography. Represented also in the book review section are three members of the history faculty of the University of Minnesota — Dr. George M. Stephenson, Dr. Philip D. Jordan, and Dr. Rodney C. Loehr. Other reviews have been written for the present number by Dr. Wayne E. Stevens, professor of history in Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire; Dr. Frederick C. Lendrum, assistant professor of medicine in the medical school of the University of Illinois in Chicago; and Dr. Grace Lee Nute, research associate on the society's staff.

Accessions

An important addition to the society's collection of works by the Baron de Lahontan is a set of his *Nouveaux Voyages* published in 1704, a year after the first edition appeared at The Hague. Two volumes of the newly acquired set bear the imprint of The Hague; the third is a reprint issued in Amsterdam in the same year with a title page that varies

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slightly. Of the thirty editions of Lahontan's *Voyages* known to have been published in full or in part before 1900, the society owns eleven, including eight in French, one in English, one in Dutch, and one in Italian. It also owns four editions published since 1900.

A number of items from the papers of Erastus Hurd, all of which relate to the activities of the Charter Oak Mining Company of Detroit, Michigan, have been received from his granddaughter, Dr. Annah Hurd of Minneapolis. Included are stock certificates dating from 1846, the company's printed articles of incorporation, a list of stockholders, and Hurd's contract authorizing him to lead an expedition into Upper Michigan in search of minerals. Dr. Hurd also has presented a small scale for weighing gold, the box in which it was kept, and a printed table of coins, all of which once belonged to her great-grandfather, Tyrus I. Hurd.

Fifty-three volumes of account books, ledgers, journals, and similar items for the years from 1848 to 1916 comprise the papers of the late Professor Frederic K. Butters of the department of botany in the University of Minnesota. They have been presented to the society by the University of Minnesota library. Included are the ledgers and cash books of the I. H. Butters stationery store in St. Paul, the bank books of Professor Butters' father, William Butters, and his mother's household accounts.

Letters of Midwestern interest in two sets of papers preserved in the Collection of Regional History of Cornell University have been copied for the society by the photostatic process. Conditions in the vicinity of Bloomingdale and Prairieville, Wisconsin, from 1849 to 1851 are pictured in letters from the A. R. Peck papers, and pioneering experiences in Minnesota from 1852 to 1854 are described in some letters of H. A. Robertson.

Substantial additions to a collection of personal papers presented in 1941 have been received from Mr. Charles H. Steffens of Racine (see *ante*, 22:423). Many of the newly received items relate to his wife's family. Among them are account books and letters of her parents, Charles J. and Ella Felch, who settled in Mower County in 1855; Civil War letters of Daniel F. M. Felch of the Ninth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry; and a family Bible with genealogical records. Recent letters written by Mr. Steffens' children and the deed to a farm in Martin County accompany the gift. A typewritten copy of a letter written on March 21, 1857, from Lac qui Parle by Mrs. Stephen R. Riggs is the gift of Mrs. Ida Kohr of Montevideo. In the letter, which is addressed to her sister, Mrs. Riggs commends her Sioux neighbors for their kindness when her home and all her possessions were destroyed by fire.

Some letters written from 1866 to 1903 by members of the family of Henry W. Crosby, a St. Croix Valley pioneer who settled at Lakeland in 1842, have been presented by Mr. Willis Miller of Hudson, Wisconsin.

Diaries kept by George Warren in 1868, 1888, and 1891, while he was engaged in lumbering operations in Mille Lacs County are included in the papers of his daughter, Annie M. Warren, recently presented by Miss Ella Ware of St. Paul. Most of the papers relate to his family's successful fight to hold a homestead near Vineland on which Warren filed a claim in February, 1891. Warren died before he was able to settle on his claim, and his heirs' rights to the property were contested by the Northern Pacific Railroad. With Miss Ware's gift is an oil painting of an early log cabin in Mille Lacs County.

Mr. Edward Lafot of Lakefield has presented to the society the family letters upon which he based much of a reminiscent narrative given earlier (see *ante*, 26:259). They are written in Swedish and they are to and from the father and sister that Mr. Lafot left in Sweden when he emigrated in 1885. The letters cover a period continuing to 1933. With them were received a set of Swedish almanacs for the years from 1832 to 1887, some family photographs, and copies of articles by Mr. Lafot.

The efforts of James H. McLaughlin, Indian agent at Standing Rock, to bring about the establishment of a national park at Pipestone in southwestern Minnesota are reflected in some correspondence for 1898 and 1899 received from Mr. Usher Burdick of Chettenham, Maryland. The letters relate to negotiations conducted with the Yankton Indians in an effort to obtain their permission to use parts of the Pipestone reservation for park purposes.

Certificates issued to William C. Edgar of Minneapolis in 1918 for his part in the Belgian relief work of the First World War are the gifts of Mr. Charles L. Horn of Minneapolis. The certificates were issued by President Wilson and by King Albert of Belgium.

ACCESSIONS

The papers of the late Judge Vince A. Day, relating largely to his activities as secretary to Governor Floyd B. Olson from 1931 to 1936 and later as a district judge in Hennepin County, have been presented by his widow, who resides in Minneapolis. For the period of the Olson administration, the collection includes copies of speeches given by the governor and his secretary, as well as Day's correspondence and notes. Among the materials on later years are the minutes of the Olson Memorial Association, for which Day was chairman; his correspondence as chairman of the Twin City Council on Fair Employment Practice; items on his services as a judge; and four scrapbooks of clippings and other materials about his career. With the collection some interesting motion pictures of Governor Olson were received.

Several objects in addition to those already available at the society concerning the career of John Banvard, the panoramist, have been given by his daughter, Miss Edith Banvard of St. Paul. Included is a daguerreotype showing the artist in late life. There are also several items of costume that belonged to his wife, such as her wedding blouse and slippers.

A group of ethnological specimens collected by the late Frank Truax of St. Paul, first commissioner of automobile licenses in Minnesota, have been given by his daughter-in-law, Mrs. Joseph H. Anderson of St. Paul. In the group are materials from the Chippewa, such as a birchbark basket, some beadwork, and a pair of metal armbands. With the Indian material are certain objects of military interest from the First World War, including American, French, and German helmets.

Gowns and accessories bought in Paris in the 1870's, given to the society by Mrs. Charles B. Wright of Minneapolis, constitute an interesting addition to the costume collection. The group includes a gray satin dress, a two-piece velvet suit, and other gowns of satin and lace.

A uniform of gray serge trimmed in red, comprising a reefer topcoat, blouse, skirt, beret, and shoulder bag, with insignia, has been presented by the United States Public Health Service. The uniform is of the type worn by the Cadet Nurse Corps, established during the Second World War.

A Bible record of the Faribault family, a sketch of Captain William B. Dodd, some early census records of northern Minnesota, and reminiscences of pioneer days in Blue Earth County are some of the items of Minnesota interest included in a volume of typewritten "Genealogical Records" gathered by the genealogical records committee of the Minnesota Daughters of the American Revolution and recently presented to the society (1946. 194 p.). Minnesota families also appear in two volumes of manuscript charts on the "Ancestry of the Barnard, Campbell, Church, Joubert, and Allied Families" prepared by Mrs. Colin F. Campbell, and in a volume entitled Family History, Anthony Taylor of Hampton, New Hampshire: Additions by Harold M. Taylor (Rutland, Vermont, 1945. 134 p.).

Other genealogies received by the society during the winter include The German Bohne-Bohn-Boon-Boone Family by Nellie W. Whedon (Los Angeles, 1945. 40 p.); The Elkinton Family in England and America by Arthur Adams (Hartford, Connecticut, 1945. 48 p.); William Foord of the "Fortune" by Hannibal C. Ford (charts); Descendants of Peter Littig, Godfrey Rogge and Others by M. D. Littig (Concord, New Hampshire, 1944. 40 p.); Certain Members of the Lord Family Who Settled in New York City in the Early 1800's by Kenneth Lord (Concord, New Hampshire, 1945. 90 p.); The Ancestry of Joseph Neal, 1769-c. 1875, of Litchfield, Maine by Walter G. Davis (Portland, Maine, 1945. 145 p.); The Percy Family of Mississippi and Louisiana by John H. Percy (Baton Rouge, 1943. 77 p.); The Prices and the Moores of Rockingham County, North Carolina by Harold Coy (Oakland, California, 1944. 330 p.); Louis Robert et ses descendants by Adolphe Robert (Manchester, New Hampshire, 1943. 85 p.); A Genealogy of the Shultz, Cupp, Weyand and Pisel Families by Charles R. Shultz (Pittsburgh, 1945. 205 p.); Matthew Tomb and His Descendants by Homer Thom (Port Jefferson, New York, 1945. 49 p.); and Genealogy Record of the Groening and Wiebe Families by Jacob Z. Wiebe (1945. 79 p.).

Names of property owners of the twenty-eight districts of South Carolina in the early 1820's are shown on maps in an Atlas of the State of South Carolina by Robert Mills (Columbia, South Carolina, 1938). This atlas, recently received by the society, is a facsimile of the original edition published in 1825. Additional material about the same state includes Indexes to the County Wills of South Carolina (Columbia, 1939) and Land Platts for 1784, Abbeville District, S. C. by Willie P. Young (Abbeville, 1945. 27 p.). Other new acquisitions of interest to genealogists include Records of the Congregational Church in Windham, Conn., 1700–1851 (Hartford, Connecticut, 1943. 153 p.); volume 3 of the Vital Rec-

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ords of Bowdoin, Maine (Auburn, Maine, 1945. 205 p.); The History of Bethel Methodist Episcopal Church, Gloucester County, New Jersey by Mrs. Walter A. Simpson (Hurffville, New Jersey, 1945. 240 p.); The History of the Town of Catharine, Schuyler County, N. Y. by Mary L. Cleaver (Rutland, Vermont, 1945. 686 p.); Some Early Ohio and Pennsylvania Families by Carle L. Maskey (Los Angeles, 1945. 88 p.); and The Pageant of Benefit Street by Margaret B. Stillwell (Providence, Rhode Island, 1945. 144 p.). L. M. F.

News and Comment

A **PROGRAM** for "Publicizing History" worked out by the advertising manager of a Detroit business firm, Mr. Reuben Ryding, is outlined in the *Michigan History Magazine* for January-March. He expresses the belief that historical societies "have vast opportunities for developing state-wide interest in and consciousness of the exciting history of our state, both past and present." Among the plans the writer advocates is one "recommending to Michigan publishers that they give serious consideration to establishing local history departments in their newspapers, and to be guided in that effort by their local historical societies." He reports that "many of the activities my firm has underwritten have had an historical flavor," including the marking of historic sites in Detroit, and the sponsoring of certain historical publications.

In a suggestive article on the "Work of a State Historical Society," published in *Nebraska History* for October-December, LeRoy R. Hafen of the Colorado State Historical Society describes some of the projects that his organization is now fostering. Among them is a "16mm colored movie portraying the highlights of our state's history," which is now in preparation, according to Dr. Hafen. He describes it as a "combination of travelogue, historical stories and sites, and museum exhibits. A running lecture will be made into a sound track to accompany the picture," he continues, adding that "We think it is going to be a very effective medium of telling the story of our state. If it turns out as well as we hope, one of the leading railroads wants to send out duplicates to various parts of the country."

A report of a panel discussion on "County Historical Societies and Their Future," conducted at Indianapolis on December 7 in connection with the annual Indiana History Conference, appears in the *Indiana History Bulletin* for January. Methods for "Getting County Financial Support" are suggested by Charles H. Stubbs, and some ways for "Making a Museum Attractive" are described by Alameda McCollough. In the same issue of the *Bulletin* are published papers presented before the Indiana History Teachers Association on December 8, including William O. Lynch's ideas about the "Preparation of the Teacher of State and Local History," and Mrs. Joy M. Lacey's report on "Teaching State and Local History in the Elementary School." A paper read before the folklore session of the conference on December 8 by Richard M. Dorson deals with the "Historical Method and American Folklore." Often invaluable to the folklorist, Mr. Dorson points out, are the local histories produced by resident antiquarians, though such works represent "probably the least respectable branch of American historical writing."

The first of a series of articles by Robert Taft on "The Pictorial Record of the Old West" appears in the Kansas Historical Quarterly for February. It deals with the pictures of Paul Frenzeny and Jules Tavernier, two artists who in 1873 were commissioned by Harper's Weekly "to make a series of sketches on an expedition that took them from the Atlantic to the Pacific." From New York to San Francisco the two men pushed slowly westward, crossing Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska, Colorado, and Utah, and completing their journey some time in the summer of 1874. The sketches they made along the way went back to New York and appeared at intervals in Harper's. Their record has been carefully studied by Professor Taft, who illustrates his article with reproductions of their pictures. In his introduction the author announces that the present article "will be followed by studies of other Western artists — from the standpoint of the social historian."

For his entertaining review of "The American Backwoodsman in Popular Portraiture," which appears in the *Indiana Magazine of History* for March, Thomas D. Clark draws upon both literary and pictorial records of the frontier produced in the first half of the nineteenth century. The language, the personal habits, the appearance, the surroundings, the weapons, the attitudes, and the folkways of the backwoodsman are among the varied topics discussed. Most of the examples cited are localized in the Ohio Valley and the Missouri country.

"From Log Cabin to Sod House" is the title of a paper presented by Edward Everett Dale before the Illinois State Historical Society in October, 1945, and published as the leading article in the same organization's *Journal* for December. The writer describes interesting contrasts between the pioneer's mode of life in wooded territory and in the treeless prairie lands farther west. Photographs of log and sod structures illustrate the article. The family album, the old-fashioned kitchen, the rail fence, the livery stable, the singing school, the smokehouse, and the country doctor are only a few of the *Passing Institutions* considered by Gordon Wilson in a recent book of essays "about things we used to know" (Cynthiana, Kentucky, 1945. 207 p.). The role of the open fireplace in the house of the past, the use of gourds as dippers, the custom of "swapping work," children's clothing, toys, and games, the trundle bed, "home industries" that produced rag carpets, brooms, quilts, and similar articles, the practice of "lodging the preacher"— these and many similar topics are the subjects of essays in this unusual little book.

That the "Discovery of Lake Superior Ranges Insured Abundance of Ore for U. S." is brought out in an article, in the March issue of *Steel Facts*, published as number 39 of a series on the history of the American iron and steel industries. Therein is outlined briefly the story of the discovery and later development of the Michigan and Wisconsin ranges and of the Vermilion Range in Minnesota. How the Mesabi and Cuyuna ranges were found will be revealed in a later article. With the present concise and useful sketch appears a reproduction of an interesting picture of "An Early Mine in the Lake Superior District."

The doctoral dissertation of J. T. Richardson, tracing the Origin and Development of Group Hospitalization in the United States, 1890–1940, has been published as volume 20, number 3 of the University of Missouri Studies (Columbia, 1945. 101 p.). The study, which is largely sociological, has a brief historical introduction, where the author notes that "Blue Cross Plans developed from four nuclei in Newark, New Orleans, St. Paul, and Washington."

Beginning with the February number, the War Records Collector published during the past two years by the American Association for State and Local History appears under a new and timely name — the War Historian. Reports on war records projects in twenty-five states, including Minnesota, make up the February issue. The March number presents an article by Clarence H. Danhof on the "Federal Government and the History of World War II." Much of the January number is occupied by an abstract of an address on the "West and World War II History" presented by Virgil V. Peterson before the American Association for State and Local History at Indianapolis on November 8, 1945. General George Crook: His Autobiography, a volume edited and annotated by Martin F. Schmitt and published by the University of Oklahoma Press (1946. 326 p.), makes available in print the firsthand record of one of the most significant military figures of the last century. The narrative, the original of which is preserved in the Army War College in Washington, covers the earlier portion of the general's career. It includes reminiscences of the Rogue River Indian war of the 1850's, of Civil War services in West Virginia, and of participation in later Indian campaigns, including the Big Horn and Yellowstone expedition of 1876. General Crook's narrative ends with his account of the battle of the Rosebud, but the editor has supplied a useful biographical supplement. The whole volume has been carefully edited. G. H. S.

The important contributions of a Minnesota woman to the study of Indian culture are given fitting recognition by Charles Hofmann in an article on "Frances Densmore and the music of the American Indian" appearing in the *Journal of American Folklore* for January-March. The writer notes that thousands of recordings collected by this "musical anthropologist" have been acquired during the past few years by the National Archives and by the Library of Congress. The latter institution has added them to its Archive of American Folk Song, and it will soon make disk copies of many of the songs "available for study and for general use." Included in the collection are many Chippewa songs collected in northern Minnesota.

Chapters on the Sioux Outbreak of 1862 in Minnesota and on the flight of the hostile Indians to the Red River settlements in Canada are included in Gontran Laviolette's recent book on the *Sioux Indians in Canada* (Regina, Saskatchewan, 1944. 131 p.). The final chapter is entitled "Survival of the Sioux in Canada."

Archbishop John Ireland is designated as "the determined foe of all movements that seemed to him to hinder in any way the 'Americanization' of the Church" in John J. Meng's article on "Cahenslyism: The First Stage, 1883–1891," which appears in the *Catholic Historical Review* for January. As an opponent of Cahenslyism, Ireland figures prominently in the narrative. Some of the writer's material is drawn from a St. Paul Catholic newspaper, the *Northwestern Chronicle*.

Suomi College at Hancock, Michigan, has taken the initiative in establishing a library of materials relating to Finnish immigration and the

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history of the Finns in America. The college has given wide publicity to a program that includes stimulating popular interest in a Finnish-American historical library, equipping a special room in a new building on the college campus for the housing of the library, systematically assembling books and manuscripts for the collection, and publishing a bibliography of materials relating to the Finns in America. Plans have been made also for building up a collection of microfilms of pertinent materials, publishing a quarterly or annual journal, and issuing books on immigrant life. Additional information about the library and its plans may be obtained from the president of Suomi College, Mr. V. K. Nikander, or from Professor John I. Kolehmainen of Heidelberg College, Tiffin, Ohio.

The average pupil is "generally quite unaware of the contributions of his own community to his country's history," according to Martin H. Cronlund, who contributes an article on "Utilizing Local Historical Resources" to the "Public School Teachers' Department" of *Pennsylvania History* for January. "The use of landmarks, of various kinds of local resources, and of place and family names, adds materially to the appreciation of the role of the community in the history of the state and the nation," writes Mr. Cronlund, who then goes on to show how historical interest can be developed in one small Pennsylvania township.

A local history school project conducted in the seventh grade of a high school at North Salem, New York, from 1942 to 1945 has resulted in the publication, under the sponsorship of the local board of education, of a volume entitled *When Our Town Was Young: Stories of North Salem's Yesterday* (1945. 170 p.). It contains tales of Indians and pioneers, of the founding of the community, of industries and transportation, of churches and schools, and of many other matters that drew the interest of the youthful writers. Illustrating the book are photographs of historic buildings and sites in the vicinity taken by the principal of the school, Mr. Fred C. Warner. Volumes similar to this might well be prepared by the members of Junior Historian chapters now active in Minnesota.

In honor of its late president, Dr. Dixon Ryan Fox, the New York State Historical Association of Cooperstown has created a memorial fund of \$100,000.00 to be used in financing its publications, in paying the expenses of a summer institute, and in assisting local historical museums throughout the state. To succeed Dr. Fox, Dr. Arthur C. Parker, director

of the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences, has been elected president of the association.

The story of Dickson Mounds State Park near Lewistown, Illinois, is featured in the January number of the *Journal* of the Illinois State Archaeological Society. The park area of a little more than nineteen acres was purchased in November, 1945, by the state of Illinois from Dr. Don Dickson, who earlier exploited the archaeological interest of the district. Photographs of the excavations in the park illustrate the issue.

The January number of the Annals of Iowa opens the quarterly's "Centennial Anniversary Volume," for the present year marks the passing of a century since Iowa was admitted to the Union as a state. The "Steps to Statehood" from October 1, 1834, when the Iowa district became part of Michigan Territory, to December 28, 1846, when the bill admitting Iowa as a state was signed, are enumerated in the issue of the Annals. Events that transpired and conditions that existed in the region immediately south of Minnesota "As Iowa Approached Statehood" are reviewed by Emory H. English, and "Northern Iowa One Hundred Years Ago" is described in general terms by O. H. Raleigh.

Mrs. Hildegard Binder Johnson, who is the author of numerous articles about Minnesota's German population, contributes a detailed discussion of "German Forty-eighters in Davenport" to the *Iows Journal of History and Politics* for January. The cultural and social activities of the Davenport Germans, as exemplified in the local turnverein and other societies, gave a unique flavor to life in this Iowa city, according to the writer. Among the benefits that the community derived from its German population were "singing societies and good music, a long-lived theater, early kindergartens, gymnastic education," writes Mrs. Johnson. With her article appears a "List of Lectures and Debates Given before the Davenport Turngemeinde."

A collection of pioneer tales culled from newspapers, local histories, and other works and prepared for publication by Thomas P. Christensen appears in a volume entitled Sagas of the Hawkeyes: Being Stories and Incidents of Early Iowa (Iowa City, 1945. 85 p.). Whenever possible, the name of the author and the date when the extract was written are given. Most of the items relate to the period from 1834 to 1888, and they deal with such topics as "Land Hunger," the "Hard Winter" of 1848–49, the

"Coming of the Hollanders," "Pioneer Surgery," early mills, and the "Clausen Colony" at St. Ansgar.

Dr. Edward P. Alexander, who became superintendent of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin in 1941, has resigned to accept an appointment as educational director of Colonial Williamsburg. His successor in Madison is Dr. Clifford Lord, formerly director of the New York State Historical Association at Cooperstown.

The paper read by Mr. James Gray of St. Paul at Madison before the ninety-ninth annual meeting of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin on October 3, 1945 (see ante, p. 67), is published in the March number of the Wisconsin Magazine of History. Under the title "Two Leaders of the Old Northwest: Hercules Dousman and Henry Sibley," he pictures the upper Mississippi frontier of a century ago and two men whose characteristics and careers left lasting marks upon the Wisconsin and Minnesota sections of that frontier. Mr. Gray finds important the "emphasis which Dousman and Sibley put upon maintaining in a world where such things were difficult to remember a proper respect for man as a creative artist, for man as a creature of intellect." Their lives and their surroundings, writes Mr. Gray, contradict the "cliché notion of the frontier" as a "place where mean and squalid threats to peace and to life itself were constantly imminent," and "where there was no leisure for anyone." The second installment of Lillian Krueger's enlightening study of "Motherhood on the Wisconsin Frontier" (see ante, p. 68) appears in the same issue of the Wisconsin Magazine of History.

How the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, only a few years after its organization in 1846, made possible "An Art Gallery in Frontier Wisconsin" is revealed by Edward P. Alexander, until recently the director of the society, in an informing article published in the *Wisconsin Magazine* of History for March. When Lyman C. Draper became the new society's corresponding secretary in 1854, his plans "included a definite scheme for building up an art gallery," writes Mr. Alexander, for "Draper had early realized the value of the artist's brush in preserving the memory of his revered pioneers." In a narrative based upon items in the society's archives, the writer shows how Draper enlisted the interest of many artists of wide reputation, some of whom contributed to the society's collection, and how he commissioned other painters to produce local views and portraits of Wisconsin leaders. "There can certainly be no doubt of the value of Draper's art gallery of early Wisconsin," according to the author, who believes that "as a promotion device in building a historical society" it was particularly significant.

The "cook shanty" of Paul Bunyan's camp, a building "about a half mile in length," is described in one of the recent booklets issued by the Wisconsin Folklore Society. It is devoted to tales of *Sourdough Sam, Paul Bunyan's Illustrious Chief Cook* (Madison, 1945). "It took a half day just to walk around" the shanty in which Sam cooked; he worked over a "cooking range several acres in extent," and "three forties of timber had to be cut every week to keep up the fire." A score of *Bunyan Bunkhouse Yarns* are related in another recent publication of the same society.

Theodore Saloutos is the author of a detailed study of the "Montana Society of Equity," an organization that held sway from 1914 to 1920, in the *Pacific Historical Review* for December. The society is pictured as a phase of the co-operative movement in the Northwest, including Minnesota. The relations of the society with similar organizations in Minnesota receive frequent mention.

From the skillful pen of Stewart Holbrook have come two recent books recording the stories of Pacific Northwest lumber companies that marked golden anniversaries in 1945. *Half Century in the Timber* (110 p.) is a narrative about Schafer Brothers Logging Company of Aberdeen, Washington; *Green Commonwealth* (163 p.) reviews the progress of the Simpson Logging Company of Shelton, Washington. Both volumes are profusely illustrated, and both have been issued in attractive format by the Dogwood Press of Seattle.

The text of a letter written by Lord Selkirk from Pembina on September 14, 1817, is published in the March number of the *Beaver*. Selkirk paused at Pembina on his journey from the Red River settlement to eastern Canada — a trip that took him southward through what is now Minnesota. The letter, in which he gives minute directions for the conduct of his affairs at Red River, is addressed to Alexander McDonell.

A journey over one of the old Red River trails from Sauk Rapids to Pembina in 1851 is described in a reminiscent narrative found among the papers of Charles Cavileer and published in *North Dakota History* for October. It is in the form of an address delivered before a meeting of old settlers at Grand Forks in 1891. Cavileer went to Pembina to become collector of customs for the district of Minnesota. The departure of Joe Rolette and Norman W. Kittson in the fall of 1851 after their election to the Minnesota territorial legislature is among the events recalled.

That nuns bound for the St. Boniface mission in the Canadian Red River settlement often reached their destination with the cart trains that traveled northwestward through Minnesota from St. Paul is revealed by Sister Mary Murphy in one of the Papers read before the Historical and Scientific Society of Manitoba in 1944-45 and edited for publication by Clifford Wilson (Winnipeg, 1945. 80 p.). Sister Mary's narrative, which bears the title "The Grey Nuns Travel West," is based upon manuscripts preserved by the Grey Nuns at St. Boniface. The first nuns of the order, the writer records, left Montreal in the spring of 1844 and traveled westward by canoe over one of the early routes of the fur traders. By 1846, however, Grey Nuns were traveling overland to the Mississippi, upstream by steamboat to St. Paul, and across the prairies in Red River carts. One group, in 1850, spent a month in Father Ravoux's house in St. Paul while waiting for the cart caravan. In another paper of the series, S. J. Sommerville discusses "Early Icelandic Settlement in Canada," giving special attention to the New Iceland colony founded on Lake Winnipeg in 1875. Accompanying the narrative are English translations of the constitution and the "Governmental Regulations" of the colony. Under the title " "The Forks' Becomes a City," William Douglas surveys briefly the story of the discovery and exploration of the site of Winnipeg and the steps in the settlement and founding of the city.

GENERAL MINNESOTA ITEMS

The possibility that Fort Snelling might be abandoned to make room for the expansion of the Twin City airport has given rise to a movement for the preservation as a national monument of the original tract and the restoration of the original buildings. The Minnesota Historical Society is supporting the movement. In an address before the Inter-Professional Men's Club of St. Paul on February 7, its superintendent, Dr. Arthur J. Larsen, made an appeal for the old fort, urging that the original tract of about 825 by 525 feet that overlooks the junction of the Minnesota and Mississippi rivers should be set aside for preservation as a historic site, and that the National Park Service should be authorized to restore the buildings. The *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, in a feature article published in

its magazine section for February 24, endorses the project and briefly reviews the role of the fort in four wars. Reproduced with the article is a painting by Seth Eastman showing Fort Snelling in 1838 as viewed from Mendota.

Some incidents connected with the residence at Fort Snelling in the 1830's of Dred Scott and his owner, Dr. John Emerson, are recounted in a feature story by Dr. L. Edmond Leipold in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for March 3. The author recalls also the famous case in the United States Supreme Court that grew out of Scott's residence in free northern territory.

That Edward Eggleston created one of his Hoosier characters while residing in Minnesota is revealed by William Randel in an article entitled "Zoroaster Higgins: Edward Eggleston as a Political Satirist in Verse," published in *American Literature* for November. Mr. Randel believes that Eggleston first used the pseudonym in signing a "Letter to General Gorman from a Hoosier" that filled a column of the *St. Paul Daily Press* for August 24, 1864. "The creation of Zoroaster Higgins," writes Mr. Randel, "was a lucky inspiration, politically well timed." He reports that Higgins did not reappear until 1871, shortly before the publication of the *Hoosier School-Master*, and then Eggleston published satirical verse under the name.

A study of "Intermarriages between German Pioneers and Other Nationalities in Minnesota in 1860 and 1870," contributed by Hildegard Binder Johnson to the *American Journal of Sociology* for January, is based upon the manuscript census schedules of population for those years. The writer believes that "To know the number and character of intermarriages among the Germans in a pioneer state means to ascertain the starting-point for the fusion of one nationality with others in the American melting-pot."

A "Historical Sketch" of Macalester College prepared for a Founders' Day celebration in 1938 by the late Anna Dickson of St. Paul appears in the February issue of the school's *Bulletin*. She recalls Edward D. Neill's pioneer effort to establish "in Minnesota a school of higher learning patterned after the New England colleges"—an effort that resulted in the founding of the Baldwin School, which in the 1870's took the name of an eastern benefactor and became Macalester College. The development of the school in its present St. Paul location after 1885 is briefly outlined, and some information is given about early faculty members.

With three installments appearing in *Minnesota Medicine* for January, February, and March, Nora H. Guthrey brings to a close her "Notes on the History of Medicine in Houston County Prior to 1900," which have been published as part of the magazine's "History of Medicine in Minnesota." Sketches of individual physicians and a bibliography conclude the section. It is followed in the March number by the opening installment of the same author's "Notes on the History of Medicine in Fillmore County Prior to 1900." A survey of the beginnings of settlement in the 1850's serves as a background for the story of frontier medical practice.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the Land O'Lakes Creameries, as well as of the local district of this important Northwest co-operative concern, is the occasion for the publication, in the Norman County Index of Ada for March 7, of several articles about its history. One general account outlines the "story of co-operative achievement by thousands of dairy farmers who have been united in a single organization since June 7, 1921, when 300 creameries formed 'Land O'Lakes.'" The district in which / Ada is located is the subject of another historical sketch, and the story of the Ada Co-operative Creamery Association is reviewed in a third article.

The career of J. B. LaMont, who recently retired from Northwest Airlines after nearly twenty years of service, is reviewed by Jack Mackay in a feature article in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for January 20. Mr. LaMont joined Northwest Airways as chief mechanic when it was incorporated under that name in 1927. Many of his pioneering adventures in airplane construction, dating back to the early years of the century and including association with such men as Glen H. Curtiss, are recalled in the present narrative.

Under the title "Minnesota Memories," Ruth Thompson has been publishing, in the Monday issues of the *Minneapolis Morning Tribune*, articles about people and events connected with the history of Minneapolis and neighboring communities. The travel narrative of an Englishman, Francis Wilkinson, who visited St. Paul and St. Anthony in 1855, is the basis for the article published on January 7; early schools, their teachers and pupils, are described in the installments for January 21 and 28; "Lincoln and the Sioux Outbreak" is the subject dealt with on February 11; some St. Paul ice palaces of the past are described on February 18; and the picturesque career of Robert Fremont Jones is sketched on March 18. In an article published on March 25, Miss Thompson outlines the story of telephone service in Minneapolis from 1878, when the first line was installed by Richard H. Hankinson. In an illustrated feature article entitled "There's No Change in Winter," appearing in the *Tribune* for January 6, Miss Thompson describes Minneapolis winter sports of the past.

LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

The history of a single Minnesota institution is the nucleus about which one of the most interesting local museums in the state has grown. Located in the College of St. Benedict at St. Joseph, the museum has developed under the fostering care of Sister Grace McDonald, a member of the Benedictine order and of the school's history faculty. Through her active and intelligent interest, many of the school's records as well as objects associated with its early years have been assembled and arranged in a large room below the chapel. The possibilities for research afforded there are suggested in the article which Sister Grace has contributed to this issue of *Minnesota History*.

The Benedictine community of women had its Minnesota beginnings at St. Cloud in 1857, and in 1863 the convent was removed to St. Joseph on the open prairie ten miles to the west. Account books and other records of activity in the frontier convent dating back as far as 1868 are to be found in the museum. Many of the pioneer nuns came from Bavaria, and they kept their records both in German and in English. The German influence is evident in entries recording the purchase of a "Bed-steat," of "Alterthings," and the like. Side by side are listed such articles as oil paintings, cabbages, and candles purchased for use in the convent.

At an early date the sisters at St. Joseph began to train teachers to serve in Catholic schools on western Indian reservations. Among the records preserved at St. Benedict's are some relating to a school for Indian and mixed-blood children on the White Earth Reservation in northern Minnesota. A school register dates from 1876, and a series of reports records the name, the degree of Indian blood, and the daily attendance of each pupil. Readers and other school books in the Chippewa language used in the White Earth school are included in the collection.

For St. Benedict's Academy, established by the nuns in connection with their convent at St. Joseph, there is a complete file of catalogues from 1883 to the present, as well as a scrapbook of clippings relating to the history of the school. Files of Catholic and German newspapers, including the *Catholic Bulletin* and the *Nordstern* of St. Cloud, are preserved for the infor-

mation they contain about Benedictine activity in the Northwest. An effort has been made to collect the books of Mrs. Julia S. Wood, a pioneer Catholic journalist and novelist of Sauk Rapids who wrote under the pseudonym of Minnie Mary Lee.

In a glass case that covers one wall of the museum room are displayed some of the articles used or made by pupils who attended St. Benedict's Academy in the 1880's. There are artificial flowers of paper, cloth, and hair, as well as the tools used in making them; a cross intricately worked in beads; a portrait of a saint embroidered in needlepoint on a paper background, and other examples of the womanly arts in vogue six decades ago. A zither of 1869 and a piano harp manufactured in Minneapolis in 1890, both of which were played at school entertainments, are on display. An item of unusual interest is a Peace and Friendship medal of 1817 that may have belonged to the Chippewa chief Hole-in-the-Day and that came to the museum from White Earth. A large and well-arranged picture collection includes portraits of scores of priests and nuns, views of the interior and exterior of the college buildings, and photographs of parish schools, churches, and convents in the area of the Northwest served by Benedictine sisters from St. Joseph.

The displays at St. Benedict's, as well as the convent itself, illustrate vividly the transfer of an old-world culture to the Minnesota frontier. The story of the actual transition from Monte Cassino in Italy, — the home of the Benedictine order which tragically became the center of a major battle of World War II, — via Metten in Bavaria, to the American wilderness of the 1850's was told in this magazine almost two decades ago by Professor A. C. Krey of the University of Minnesota (see *ante*, 8:217-231). What one group of Benedictines accomplished in the new environment is reflected in the little museum on the campus of the College of St. Benedict at St. Joseph. B. L. H.

The Becker County Historical Society held open house in its museum at Detroit Lakes on the evening of January 8. Mrs. Jessie Nottage is curator of the museum. Dr. F. J. Rogstad, president of the society, was re-elected, and M. J. Reilly and A. T. Thompson were named vice-presidents.

Since the Blue Earth County Historical Society opened its museum in its present quarters in September, 1938, more than 12,000 visitors who registered have seen the displays, according to the *Mankato Free Press* for March 20. The present custodian, Mr. John Theissen, estimates that the total number of visitors is about 17,000, since many individuals fail to

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register. Last year thirty-seven school and club groups saw the displays. Members of the Art History Club of Mankato paid a visit to the museum on January 8 in lieu of the program usually held in connection with its meetings. The club has contributed to the museum funds for a display case in which can be shown some of the work of Gilbert Fletcher, a local artist who attained a national reputation. Among recent additions to the society's collections is a scrapbook of clippings about local events presented by Mr. Frank Morris of Madelia. It is described in the *Mankato Free Press* for January 9.

Among the recent acquisitions of the Brown County Historical Society's museum at New Ulm is a bicycle that a local resident, Mr. Lorenz Merkle, used for forty-seven years, according to an announcement in the *New Ulm Daily Journal* for January 7. A few of the Bibles in the society's collection are the subject of a note in the *Stephen Messenger* for December 20, 1945.

The Norwood Times, in its issue for March 1, announces the gift to the Carver County Historical Society of 173 portraits of men and women from the county who served in the armed forces of the Second World War. The society is making every effort to build up its collection of such pictures.

Some of the implements used by pioneer women in preparing flax and in spinning and weaving, and now to be seen in the museum of the Chippewa County Historical Society at Montevideo, are described in the *Montevideo American* for February 22. Attention is called to the fact that, like the Minnesota Historical Society, the local society has several hatchels. Samples of flax and of linen woven by residents of the county are other items mentioned. Among those who attended a meeting of the society at Montevideo on February 2 was Mr. Richard Sackett, field director of the Minnesota Historical Society, who discussed informally the local organization's work and plans.

Officers elected at a meeting of the Goodhue County Historical Society held at Red Wing on March 6 include Dr. M. W. Smith, president, Judge Charles P. Hall, vice-president, Rosalie Youngdahl, secretary, and E. F. H. Swanson, treasurer. Resolutions were adopted in honor of the late C. A. Rasmussen, the society's president and curator of its museum. To succeed Mr. Rasmussen, who died early in February, Miss Mabel Densmore has been appointed curator. The county board appropriated funds for her salary at a meeting held on March 12. The "progress made by the Hennepin County Historical Society, Minneapolis, Minnesota, since its founding in 1938" is commended by the editor of the *State and Local History News* in its January issue.

In order to accommodate people who cannot visit its museum on weekdays, the Hennepin County Historical Society is now open on Sundays from 2:00 to 5:00 P.M. On four days each week the museum is open to the public from 9:00 A.M. to 4:00 P.M. The Hennepin County museum, its inception in 1938 and its subsequent growth, is the subject of an article in the *Minneapolis Weekly News* for January 18. The local society held its annual meeting in Minneapolis on January 23, when Mayor Hubert H. Humphrey of that city spoke on the "Post War and the New World." Professor Herbert Heaton of the University of Minnesota was the speaker at a meeting on March 13, when the newly elected president of the organization, Mr. Dana W. Frear, presided. Other officers of the society include Charles E. Doell, vice-president, Ruth Thompson, secretary, and Leland F. Leland, treasurer. The January number of the society's quarterly, *Hennepin County History*, contains the opening installment of an article by Mr. Frear on the "First Schools in Hennepin County."

The need for a local historical society in the Itasca County community of Deer River is stressed by the editor of the *Deer River News* in the issue for February 7. An inquiry from a former resident of the community about local history and events, published in the *News* for January 17, stimulated so many replies that the editor could not handle them. Some of the information gathered, however, was published in the issues of his paper for January 31, where the community of the 1890's is described, and for February 14, where a pioneer school in the vicinity is recalled.

The Kittson County Historical Society, at a meeting held at Lake Bronson on March 19, reorganized and elected officers for the coming year. They include C. W. Bouvette, president, Carl O. Furaas, secretary, and Charles Frederick, treasurer. Plans were made for a membership drive and for the arrangement of displays in a restored log cabin in Lake Bronson State Park. Kittson County residents have been asked to contribute articles appropriate for display.

A brief report on the name "Fairmont," prepared by the secretary of the Martin County Historical Society in response to an inquiry from a railroad company, is published in the *Fairmont Daily Sentinel* for February 23. It reveals that the name, which was originally spelled "Fairmount," was first "applied to the area that is now the city of Fairmont in October, 1857," when a townsite company platted a town. Later a post office, a military post, and an incorporated settlement used the name.

A sketch of the Worthington Community Club is among the articles and other items of local historical interest published in the *Bulletin* of the Nobles County Historical Society for January. Mrs. L. A. Thrall, the author, traces the story of the organization back to 1915. In another section of the *Bulletin* attention is called to the coming seventy-fifth anniversary of Worthington, to the plans for its observance, and to the fact that the local historical society will participate in the program.

The career of George W. Lovejoy, a pioneer Rochester musician, was reviewed by Mrs. Bunn T. Willson, president of the Olmsted County Historical Society, before a meeting of the organization at Rochester on January 24. To illustrate Mrs. Willson's talk, several of Lovejoy's compositions were performed by local musicians. A showing of the film "Minnesota Document" was another feature of the program.

At a meeting of the board of directors of the Polk County Historical Society held at Crookston on January 7, Judge James E. Montague was elected president of the organization to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Dr. Paul Hagen.

The story of "Immigrants from Isle of Man" who settled in Greenvale Township of Rice County in the 1850's is reviewed in an article by Sage Van Slyke Silliman published in the *Northfield Independent* for January 31. The paper was presented before a meeting of the Rice County Historical held at Northfield on May 22, 1945.

The St. Louis County Historical Society has published a four-page leaflet containing an informing outline of its organization, purposes, collections, and activities. A brief introduction tells something of the county that the society serves. Its manuscript and museum collections, its library, and the Eastman Johnson paintings are singled out for special comment. Visitors to the society's quarters in Duluth should find this guide especially useful.

A talk on "Local History Work" by Richard R. Sackett of the Minnesota Historical Society's staff was the feature of a meeting of the Sibley County Historical Society held at Henderson on February 1. The society held its annual meeting on February 28, when the following officers were elected: Arthur Sander, president, Louis Kill, vice-president, Einar Rogstad, secretary, and C. H. Stelter, treasurer. More than seventy members attended the meeting. In a brief talk, Mr. Rogstad called attention to the advantages to be gained by establishing a county historical museum in Henderson.

The Waseca County Historical Society held its first meeting under newly adopted articles of incorporation on January 7. The society's affairs, under its new bylaws, are regulated by a board of nine members who serve for terms of one, two, and three years. They were elected at the meeting of January 7. Following the meeting, the board named R. T. Barry as president of the society, Mrs. F. D. Scholljegerdes, vice-president, Herman Panzram, secretary, and Arthur Brisbane, treasurer.

The early settlement of Forest Lake Township, the development of the community, and the beginnings of its summer resort industry in the 1870's were reviewed by Mrs. C. J. Hansen in a talk before the Washington County Historical Society at Stillwater on January 17. The text of her address appears in installments in the *Forest Lake Times* from January 24 to February 7. "The County Historical Society and the Community" was the title of a talk given by Richard Sackett, field director of the Minnesota Historical Society, when he appeared before the Washington County organization on March 2. A Newport teacher, Ila Rose Jarchow, spoke before the society on March 30, explaining "How We Studied Community History." An annual report on the society's museum, read before the meeting of March 2, shows that is was open on Saturdays and Sundays from June 16 to October 11, 1945, and that 368 visitors registered during that period.

LOCAL HISTORY ITEMS

The grist mill built at Minneopa in 1864 by Louis Seppman is the subject of an article by Frank Franciscus in the *Mankato Free Press* for March 1. The writer notes that the walls of this picturesque windmill, which is depicted with the article, are still standing near Mankato. Other windmills in the area, such as that built by Gustaf Schostag in the 1860's, also are mentioned. In the *Free Press* for February 15, Flora Holtman describes the early use of an automobile for commercial purposes by a Mankato candy manufacturing concern. The vehicle, which is pictured with the narrative, was used by the firm's salesman in South Dakota in 1902.

The story of a farm at Victoria in Carver County which has been occupied by members of the Salter family since 1854 is reviewed by Robert H. Salter in the *Weekly Valley Herald* of Chaska for March 7. His narrative is based in part on his father's diary.

The little resort town of Chisago City is the subject of an informal essay by John T. Flanagan which appears under the title "My Summer Home" in the issue of the Prairie Schooner for the winter of 1945. The author pictures a community "with a lineage almost purely Swedish," where the "Swedish language and culture transplanted with the original settlers are gradually being replaced by the speech and customs of the typical Midwesterner." He gives some examples of the "curious mixture of idioms" used by local residents, of the "concerted action" that finds expression in co-operative business enterprise, "unanimous membership" in a single church, and united political action. The rise and decline of the local resort business also are a subject of comment. "Despite the white frame houses, the enormous red barns and silos, the village bandstand, the triangular park with a flagpole, there is an old-world air of finality about Chisago City," writes Dr. Flanagan. "This is no parvenu village but a sturdy, independent, proud little community, granitic in its reserve and content in its ways."

The history of the unusual spiral bridge across the Mississippi River at Hastings is outlined in the magazine section of the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for March 3. The bridge, which was opened to traffic in April, 1895, will soon be replaced by a safer structure, according to this account. A picture of the bridge accompanies the article.

To safeguard files of local newspapers and other material of value for the study of local history a special fireproof vault is being constructed in the Albert Lea Public Library, according to an announcement in the *Evening Tribune* of Albert Lea for February 8. Among the items to be preserved are thirteen volumes of clippings from Freeborn County newspapers "assembled, bound and indexed under the direction and at the personal expense of L. W. Spicer." The material included relates to the county's participation in the Second World War. A complete file of the *Tribune*, covering half a century, also is to be kept in the new vault.

A brief section on the "History of Red Wing Churches" opens Lowry Nelson's pamphlet on *Red Wing Churches During the War*, which has been published by the University of Minnesota Press as number 7 of its series of studies on the *Community Basis for Postwar Planning* (1946. 21 p.). Many of the city's churches, Professor Nelson points out, trace their origins to the 1850's, when New Englanders and immigrants from northern Europe settled there.

Historical Reminiscences of Lake Minnetonka presented to members of the Lake Minnetonka Garden Club in August, 1945, by a group of women who have long been familiar with the area have been assembled in a pamplet and published by the club (33 p.). The opening essay, by Mrs. George C. Christian, reviews the "Early History of Wayzata, Harrington Farms, Orono and Minnetonka Beach," with notes on the exploration and settlement of these localities. Mrs. Stanley Partridge contributes "Upper Lake Memories" of the summer home of her father, Albert C. Loring. A more general account of "Upper Lake Minnetonka," its background, its settlers, its summer residents, and its St. Louis colony, is provided by Mrs. G. Nelson Dayton. There are essays on "Excelsior" by Mrs. William O. Winston, on "Northome" by Mrs. Russell M. Bennett, and on "Maplewoods" by Mrs. Clarkson Lindley. Many detailed bits of information about summer resorts, place names, early residents, summer colonies, local traditions, and the like are to be found in the booklet, which includes a map of Lake Minnetonka.

Some of the background and history of Minnetonka Mills, as related to a group meeting in a private home in the community by Miss Louise Burwell and Mr. Dana Frear, is published in the *Deephaven Argus* for February 1. They told of a sawmill and a furniture factory built in the early 1850's, of steamboats on Lake Minnetonka in the 1860's, and of the early schools in the vicinity.

An attractive illustrated booklet issued in May, 1945, to commemorate the *Diamond Jubilee, Church of St. Joseph* in Minneapolis, includes a review of the "Story of the Parish of St. Joseph, 1870–1945." The church was founded in 1870 to satisfy the needs of German Catholics who had settled in North Minneapolis.

Now available in pamphlet form is I. W. Hinckley's "History of Littlefork," which appeared in installments in the *Littlefork Times* from September 20 to December 27 (see *ante*, 26:397). The booklet of thirty-two pages is illustrated with early photographs of the town and its vicinity.

A half century of service by the Rochester Public Library is given recognition in the *Rochester Post-Bulletin* for February 13, where the history of one of the community's chief cultural assets is reviewed. The city had subscription libraries and library associations as early as 1865, according to this account, but it was not until 1895 that a public library, supported by taxes, was opened. The first librarian received a salary of fifteen dollars a month, and her two assistants served without pay, the report reveals. It records also the growth of the library's collection, its circulation increase, and the story of its building.

That Rush City needs a "memorial building" equipped to house veterans' groups, a public library, and a local museum, is brought out in a letter from the local Commercial Club printed in the *Rush City Post* of February 1. That organization has been co-operating with the local American Legion post and the village council in making plans for such a building.

St. Paul ice palaces of the 1880's and winter sports enjoyed in connection with some of the city's early winter carnivals are pictured in the rotogravure section of the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for February 24. In other sections of the same issue are articles telling how "St. Paul Made Winter 'Fun'" through its early carnivals, reviewing the "dog team race" from Winnipeg to St. Paul that was a feature of the 1917 carnival, and describing souvenirs of past carnivals displayed by the Minnesota Historical Society during the 1946 event.

Readers of the St. Paul Shopper are reminded of some "Forgotten Facts about St. Paul" by Mark Fitzpatrick, who contributes to the weekly paper brief articles published under that heading. Among the subjects of sketches published in the early months of 1946 are Dan Emmett and the writing of "Dixie," January 16; some early St. Paul ice palaces, January 30; the organization of the St. Paul chapter of the Volunteers of America in 1900, February 13; Lot Moffet and his "castle," February 27; and Michael Shiely and his family in St. Paul, March 13. A second historical series in the Shopper, entitled "Down Memory Lane," calls attention, in the issue for February 20, to John T. Flanagan's article on "Early Literary Periodicals in Minnesota," which appeared in this magazine for December, 1945. A booklet commemorating its fiftieth anniversary has been issued by the firm of Brown and Bigelow of St. Paul. It includes a brief review of the history of the concern, as well as notes on its various products and activities.

The passing of fifty years since the St. Paul Printing Pressmen and Assistants' Union No. 29 was organized was marked by its members on January 25 and commemorated by the publication of a *Golden Anniversary* booklet (24 p.). It outlines briefly the work accomplished by the union during its half century of existence, names the charter members, and pays tribute to its first president, Thomas Yould. Among the illustrations are dramatic views of St. Paul in 1896 and 1946.

An appeal for the inclusion in the new Hibbing library building of a room that can house a historical museum is made in the *Hibbing Daily Tribune* for January 2. If such a room becomes available, the local paper points out, significant local collections, like the firearms collection assembled by Mr. Algot Lindholm, can be kept in the community and placed on permanent exhibition. An article about the latter collection, by Margaret Thorbeck, appears in the *Tribune* for February 21.

Winona's need for an art museum — a building that "could also house a historical museum and possibly a national history section"— is stressed in an article, in the *Winona Republican-Herald* of March 16, which tells in some detail about museums that flourish in other communities of comparable size. Mention is made of buildings and collections in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, Zanesville, Ohio, Duluth, Lawrence, Kansas, and other places. The fact that the Olmsted County Historical Society has a museum at Rochester for which the county makes an annual appropriation is noted.



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