

Some New Books in Review

Edward Eggleston, Author of the Hoosier School-Master. By WILLIAM PIERCE RANDEL. (New York, King's Crown Press, 1946. xi, 319 p. \$3.50.)

In *Edward Eggleston* we are at last given an adequate biography of one of the first of American realists, a detailed and understanding account of the development of this restless son of the frontier from "bigotry to the emancipation of the mind." Dr. Randel's book is doubly valuable as the study of the effect of the frontier on the artist and of the use that the artist made of the frontier, for Eggleston was the intellectual growing up in a world which offered few opportunities for intellectual expression.

Frail in body, with bookish inclinations, young Edward could hope to find few satisfying occupations in backwoods Indiana. Schoolteaching, journalism, the law, or the ministry were the only means of combining the intellectual life with the practical business of earning a living. At seventeen Eggleston taught school for a few weeks—long enough to know that it was uncongenial work. As a boy he had come under a strong Methodist influence, and it was inevitable that he should turn to divinity. He became a Bible agent, and then in 1856 he preached his first sermon. His poor health and his restlessness led him, after the fashion of the day, on a strenuous trip to the much-vaunted frontier Territory of Minnesota, which was to be his home for a very important decade of his life. There were, however, as few opportunities there as in Indiana for intellectual expression.

We see him filling the diaries, which are the record of his spiritual-intellectual progress; we watch him composing sermons; we hear him edifying culture-seeking audiences with occasional high-toned lectures. But it was not for these things any more than for book peddling or Bible distributing that he was intended. In 1860 he accompanied a party of scientists to view an eclipse of the sun in Saskatchewan. The five letters he sent back to the *St. Paul Minnesotian and Times* were well received, and he discovered at last that he could write about everyday subjects in a manner that could please large audiences. It was, however, seven years more before he broke away from preaching and

began to earn his living by writing, first by editing a Sunday-school magazine in Chicago, then the *Independent* in New York. The serial publication of *The Hoosier School-Master* in 1871 established him as a novelist, and eventually he was to make a name for himself as one of the first American social historians.

But, although Eggleston often rebelled against frontier intellectual conditions, he showed the spirit of the pioneer throughout his life. His work for the Sunday school, his opposition to denominationalism, his fight for an international copyright, his interpretation of American history are all a part of the independent spirit that is associated with frontier life. His studies of frontier character and theme are a product of his background of experience as teacher, preacher, book peddler, Bible agent, soapmaker, showman, insurance agent.

All this Dr. Randel has shown admirably in his biography of this man who was much more than merely the author of one book. Eggleston's fiction may not be greatly to our taste now, but it had considerable influence on the development of realism. His very life is the epitome of the restless craving and urge of the intellectual for expression, in spite of the unfavorable conditions of the frontier.

It should be added that the book is thoroughly documented: twenty-eight pages of notes are followed by a fifty-one page bibliography of writings by or about Eggleston.

JOHN FRANCIS McDERMOTT

Land of the Dakotahs. By BRUCE NELSON. (Minneapolis, University of Minnesota Press, 1946. 354 p. Illustrations. \$3.75.)

Land of the Dakotahs is a fine addition to American regional literature. The name, broadly used, includes the area of the entire northern plains from Minnesota to the Rockies. The time extends from the lighting of the Seven Council Fires of the Dakota, or Sioux, Indians, each cultivating the good will of Pte, the buffalo, to another great council fire in Washington, D. C., concerned with replacing through a Missouri Valley Authority the bounty once provided by the versatile Pte. Careful research, skillful choice of detail, and a vivid semi-journalistic style make the study a contribution to both the history and the literature of the area.

Particularly dramatic incidents and characters which make up the story of western development are chosen for separate treatment by chapters. Episodic patchwork has been narrowly avoided by a light but

sufficiently integrated chronological and subject development and by sustained writing of a high level. The result is a rapidly moving account of exploration, exploitation, heartbreak, and high accomplishment, with a satisfactory degree of unity.

Considerable fresh material is interwoven with better-known facts. There is little attempt, however, at comprehensive treatment or weighing of evidence in the many controversial episodes, such as the La Vérendrye exploration and the Custer disaster, for instance. As biographical sketches, the chapters treating the Marquis de Mores, Sitting Bull, and Jim Hill lack much that is important, but in each case they leave a clear impression of the man and his significance. The book will be most useful as a popular account in which certain typical incidents and personalities are clearly and forcefully presented in accurate perspective. It will lead to understanding and appreciation of the factors and forces in the making of empire.

The treatment of the earlier historical aspects is in the main impartially drawn, with occasional asides aimed at waste, corruption, and greed. In the chapters dealing with later development, such as the McKenzie regime in the Dakotas, Jim Hill's railroad empire, the Non-partisan League, and the MVA, the author enters as a protagonist for the people as against the influence of vested corporate interest, eastern finance, and bureaucratic control. A careful assembling of factual material and reasoning based thereon lead to confidence in the conclusions reached.

The book follows a pattern, rather popular at the moment, of a historic setting for an examination of the economic, political, and social movements within a homogeneous area. Written with the assistance of a University of Minnesota Fellowship in Regional Writing, the volume is a stimulating, informative, and entertaining account of the region chosen.

MERRILL G. BURLINGAME

Minutes of the Hudson's Bay Company, 1679-1684, first part, 1679-82 (Hudson's Bay Record Society, *Publications*, vol. 8). Edited by E. E. RICH, M.A. With an introduction by G. N. CLARK. (Published by the Champlain Society for the Hudson's Bay Record Society, 1945. xlvii, 378, x p. Frontispiece.)

It is pleasing news to learn from the opening sentence of this volume that the company's archives have been moved back to London and, pre-

sumably, may be consulted by qualified students. Those of us who were curious about the place of their preservation during the London "blitzes" now find that the country home of the governor of the company was their refuge for the war years.

It will be noted that there is a gap between the first minute book of the company, for 1671-74, and this one. The records for the interval were probably among those mentioned in Radisson's suit against the company in the 1690's, when many archives of the Hudson's Bay Company were referred to as already lost. Other documents tell not a little of the company's history between 1674 and 1679, and the editor, with the efficient help of Miss A. M. Johnson, "who knows the Hudson's Bay Company's records as no one else does," has used them in his introduction to tell what is known of those years.

This introduction will be the important part of the book for the casual reader, for one must have deep knowledge of local history to understand the minutes themselves. For the scholar of the period, however, the minutes will prove very valuable. There is a great deal in them, first and last, about Radisson, Des Groseilliers, other explorers of northern North America, maps of the same area and period, and similar data, which will appeal to students of Minnesota history.

The most interesting document is surely John Nixon's report from Hudson Bay in 1682, which appears as an appendix. Nixon was governor of the new colony on the bay, and his comments are full of those details that delight the historian of an enterprise or a region. I was present in London when Dr. R. P. Stearns, an American scholar, found the original of this document in the extensive archives of the Royal Society. He as well as I realized immediately its importance. Professor Stearns must be pleased now to find his judgment confirmed by the appearance of the long document in this volume of the company's papers.

This volume is equal in all respects to its predecessors in the series. What a remarkable series it is going to be only a few years hence, if the record society continues to publish with the vigor and speed it has shown thus far! I cannot refrain from hoping that the person or persons charged with deciding which material shall be published will soon choose the group of journals and reports that tell the story of the Rainy Lake district after 1792. They would explain the company's activities in the middle of the continent just as the volumes already printed represent them in the bay and on the west coast.

GRACE LEE NUTE

The Lincoln Reader. Edited, with an introduction, by PAUL M. ANGLE. (New Brunswick, Rutgers University Press, 1947. xii, 564 p. Illustrations. \$3.75.)

For the first time in Book of the Month Club history, a Lincoln biography has been selected by its competent committee for its near half-million readers. With the best title ever given a Lincoln biography, plus Lincoln's great appeal to the average reader, the Rutgers University Press has re-stimulated the interest in the sixteenth president that has never subsided since the publication of Carl Sandburg's monumental biography.

Without a lifetime of study, Paul M. Angle could not have conceived this unique, skillfully connected Lincoln narrative of a hundred and seventy-nine contributions by sixty-five authors. Yet Mr. Angle assumes the role of "literary midwife to those [sixty-odd writers] who have really labored."

Mr. Angle's specialty is the literature of Lincolniana, with a tendency to accept the conventional picture of the sixteenth president. His composite portrait, depicting his subject as a man, his purposes, his accomplishments, his acts and deeds, may be said to have been taken in many instances from the mellowed works of the great master biographers. But his picture is an etching, vividly and sharply drawn. Interspersed in convenient niches are the writings of Lincoln, giving an added quality for the delight of the reader.

Since Mr. Angle is a conventionalist, source writers (people who lived in Lincoln's day and were acquainted with him) outnumber secondary writers (historians, biographers, and writers) in the volume, but the editor, cognizant of the fact that a great number of the basic books of Lincolniana have been produced in recent years, gives more than half his total pages to secondary studies.

About fifty per cent of the biography is given over to the war years, with an orthodox treatment that the "revisionist" historian might not be willing to accept. The editor, in plying his skillful art, appears to have been influenced by a desire for continuity—a factor for which he should not be held responsible—and selected those writings that would "fit best." Then, too, the reader is apt to feel that the editor, likely influenced by his publisher, labored as diligently for literary effect as for the fine points of history. Nevertheless, *The Lincoln Reader* can be classified as basic Lincolniana.

R. GERALD McMURTRY

The Historical Scene

UNDER THE TITLE "The Mosaic of Western History," John Walton Caughey analyzes, in the March *Mississippi Valley Historical Review*, the contents of certain state and regional historical periodicals issued between 1939 and 1945. The easternmost of the publications discussed originate in the Dakotas, Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas; thus *Minnesota History* is excluded from the study. Mr. Caughey's conclusions, however, in which he discloses some of the "principal blind spots" of historians in the western half of the United States, are for the most part, as appropriate to Minnesota as to the states he considers. He presents two tables analyzing articles in western journals of the war years, one chronological, the other topical. The former reveals that the period from 1850 to 1890 has been largely stressed, and that the early and modern eras of western history have been neglected. The topical chart brings to light many subjects that need further examination at the hands of writers for historical journals. Substantial representation is accorded Minnesota in Earle D. Ross's survey of "A Generation of Prairie Historiography" published in the December issue of the *Review*. Among state histories, Mr. Ross considers "President Folwell's mature work . . . a worthy representative"; he classes Henry Johnson's picture of the "more wholesome side of Sauk Center" and Edgar Wesley's history of Owatonna with the best interpretations of small Midwest communities; and he uses the *Minnesota Farmers' Diaries* published by the Minnesota Historical Society as an illustration of the "accumulating riches" in the field of agricultural history. To the same issue of the *Review*, Chester McArthur Destler contributes, with an introduction and annotations, extracts from a "Diary of a Journey into the Valleys of the Red River of the North and the Upper Missouri, 1879." The diariest is William Bross of Chicago, an ex-lieutenant governor of Illinois and a former publisher of the *Chicago Tribune*. His trip was made in order to "reappraise the resources and potentialities of the river valleys" for *Tribune* readers, since their courses were in the process of being exploited by James J. Hill and other railroad builders.

Unless a library has the interest and the support of laymen, its reason for being is gone, in the opinion of Wilmarth S. Lewis, who contributes

an article on "The Layman and Libraries" to the spring number of the *Yale Review*. He points out that the layman can make his greatest contribution if he happens to be a collector, for a "great library is a collection of collections," most of which must reach its shelves as the result of private endeavor. If libraries "are going to grow in usefulness they must have new collections," according to Mr. Lewis, "and these must come from owners of private collections." The collector who builds up and gives a collection to a public institution finds it a "very great satisfaction to create something and ensure its preservation to the end of time," Mr. Lewis declares.

In an article on "The Preservation of Historical Records and the Need of Saving the Ephemera of Today," published in *Special Libraries* for February, Gertrude L. Annan gives emphasis to the "seemingly insignificant material of today which might easily be discarded and thus lost to the future." She points out that "what we might classify as junk which merits only the wastebasket, the historian of 100 years from now may pounce upon with glee," since it is obvious that the "historian needs all types of literature in his search for hidden facts." Thus it is obvious that the historical library which collects only substantial and finely printed volumes is "not a working library."

A book club that will have a special appeal for readers of this magazine has been inaugurated by a member of the Minnesota Historical Society, Mr. Carl Jones of Minneapolis, for many years publisher of the *Minneapolis Journal*. It is known as the History Book Club, and it is intended to "bring to American readers the drama of the things that made America, the things that are still making America." The selections will be made by a board of editors composed of five distinguished American historians — Randolph G. Adams of the William L. Clements Library in the University of Michigan, Bernard DeVoto of Cambridge, Massachusetts, J. Frank Dobie of the University of Texas, Stewart H. Holbrook of Portland, Oregon, and Arthur M. Schlesinger, Jr., of Washington, D. C. Members of the club receive a monthly illustrated magazine, *America in Books*; they may purchase the club's selections at a discount; and for every four selections accepted, they will receive a book dividend. The club's first selection, that for May, is Clifford Dowdey's *Experiment in Rebellion*; that for June is Townsend Scudder's *Concord, American Town*. As a gift to new members the club is distributing

Jeannette Mirsky's *The Westward Crossings*, which was reviewed in the March number of this magazine (*ante*, p. 57); the second book dividend of the club is *The Indiana Home* by Logan Esarey. Information about the History Book Club may be obtained by writing to its New York office at 44 West Fifty-sixth Street.

The publication by historical societies of histories of individual business firms written by trained historians and financed by the firms is advocated by Leon S. Gay in a paper entitled "A New Approach to Local Business History," which appears in the *Bulletin* of the Business Historical Society for February. Mr. Gay expresses the belief that such co-operation can be of value not only "in preserving the records of the past, but even more so in guiding the opinion of the future, both of which are within the scope of the historical society and progressive business firms." It is Mr. Gay's opinion that "to write the history of small business is to write the history of our nation."

"Since the American frontier was essentially a region, the food and food habits of its people were always much the same," writes Edward Everett Dale in an article on "The Food of the Frontier" in the March *Journal* of the Illinois State Historical Society. He points out that differences in climate, in local resources, and in the place of origin of pioneer settlers did have "various effects" on food; nevertheless he finds that a "study of the diet and cookery of all these pioneer peoples will reveal that they had striking similarities." All settlers in a new country soon learned "that their eating habits must undergo a radical change."

"Rain Follows the Plow: The Notion of Increased Rainfall for the Great Plains, 1844-1880" is given as a "striking illustration" of the "exuberant optimism" of the frontier by Henry Nash Smith, who contributes an essay on the subject to the *Huntington Library Quarterly* for February. As the agricultural frontier pushed westward, Mr. Smith points out, the pioneers advanced the "notion that in some fashion—either by the operation of inscrutable natural forces or as a result of man's own activities—the rainfall would be increased sufficiently to allow the agricultural frontier to continue advancing" through the arid and semiarid Great Plains to the Rockies. The writer "attempts to chart the course of this belief as it appears in writings about the West." In the same issue of the *Quarterly*, Dixon Wecter surveys the influences that led to the "Education of Everyman" in America in the two decades

from 1870 to 1890. He makes special mention of "Minnesota's Ignatius Donnelly" and his crusade for free textbooks in rural schools.

The American Association for State and Local History has published as number 12 of its *Bulletins* a useful booklet on *The Junior Historian Movement in the Public Schools* (1947. p. 335-370). The author, Dr. Horace Bailey Carroll, is one of the country's pioneers in promoting junior historical activity, for he took charge of the junior branch of the Texas State Historical Association in 1940, and he has edited its publication, the *Junior Historian*, from its very beginning in January, 1941. Suggestions offered by a man of such wide and varied experience cannot fail to be stimulating. Any state could be proud to match the record made by Texas as reported by Mr. Carroll. The movement had its inception in 1939. "By January, 1941, we had twenty-one chapters," writes Mr. Carroll. "We brought out at that time the first number of the *Junior Historian* magazine. So far as we have been able to discover, this was a unique publication, being the first published periodical in which the writing was done both by and for young people. By April, 1946, we had eighty-five chapters, and the magazine had a circulation of approximately three thousand." And, what is more, "since the third year of its publication the magazine has been paying its own way," making the entire Texas junior historian movement a success financially. Among the practical features of Mr. Carroll's brochure are an outline of a plan of organization for a junior historian program, a review of the steps by which a junior chapter can become affiliated with the state historical society, and a model constitution for a junior society. In some detail he analyzes the contents of the *Junior Historian*, adding to his narrative a "Cumulative Table of Contents of the Articles" published in its first five volumes. Mr. Carroll reports on the spread of the junior historian movement into other states, including Minnesota, where, he relates, the "enthusiasm with which it has been greeted promises much success."

The results of a nation-wide survey of "Local History in the Schools" are featured in the January-February issue of *American Heritage*, the newly established journal of the American Association of State and Local History. Figures were compiled and statistics tabulated on answers received to such questions as "Does your state require the teaching of state and local history?", "How long has such requirement been in

force?", and "Do you have a junior historian's program?" An interesting and stimulating section of the new periodical, which is based upon a publication of the New York state department of education, contains suggestions for "Exploring the Environment." Included is a guide telling "what to see" and "what to do" when visiting historic sites. Periodicals, pamphlets, and leaflets available at nominal prices are listed in a "Book Shelf" section, and radio programs of special significance in connection with the study of various localities appear under the heading "On the Air." Teachers of history and the social studies will find this new periodical replete with fresh and stimulating suggestions.

With some descriptions of "Imitative Dances among the American Indians," in the *Journal of American Folklore* for January-March, Frances Densmore gives the notes of the accompanying songs. She recorded the music during visits to reservations, where she witnessed the dances of the Sioux, the Menominee, the Winnebago, and other tribes.

Among the narratives of *Great Adventures and Explorations from the Earliest Times to the Present* assembled by Vilhjalmur Stefansson in a recent volume (New York, 1947. 788 p.) is one telling the story of the Norse expedition that supposedly left the Kensington rune stone in what is now central Minnesota in 1362. Extracts from contemporary documents relating to the Norsemen and their travels and the text of the Kensington inscription are followed by editorial comment on and a survey of recent research and writings about Norse exploration.

The roles played by commercial fishermen and by traders and trappers in the exploration and occupation of Canada are revealed by A. Lacey in an article entitled "Fish, Furs and History," published in the *Canadian Geographical Journal* for January. He emphasizes the fact that the French penetrated the interior in search of furs, while the English, "because of their undiverted attention to the codfishery, came to occupy a better strategic position than the French" along the coast. This, Mr. Lacey considers perhaps the dominant factor in the "struggle between French and English in North America."

Fourteen *Milestones in the Progress of the Hudson's Bay Company* are described very briefly in a miniature illustrated pamphlet issued by the company to commemorate its two-hundred-and-seventy-fifth anniver-

sary (31 p.). The first "milestone" tells of the appearance of Radisson and Groseilliers before Charles II in 1665; the second records the incorporation of the company five years later. Several of the incidents described revolve about the Red River settlements in the early decades of the last century.

In his newly published biography of *Zachary Taylor* (Baton Rouge, 1946. 455 p.), Professor Brainerd Dyer devotes a chapter of more than thirty pages to the years from 1828 to 1837, when his subject was stationed at Forts Snelling and Crawford on the upper Mississippi. Taylor actually lived at the Minnesota post only during the first year of this period, but the writer makes it clear that his interest in Fort Snelling continued in the years that followed. One reason for his continuing interest was the fact that his daughter Ann was married in the fall of 1829 to Dr. Robert C. Wood, the assistant surgeon at Fort Snelling. Professor Dyer's chapter on the Northwest deals in large measure with the Black Hawk War and Taylor's role in the conflict.

Among the contributors to the *Southern Folklore Quarterly* for December is Dr. Philip D. Jordan of the department of history in the University of Minnesota and the staff of the Minnesota Historical Society. Taking as his subject "Folk Fun for English Emigrants," he gives a few illustrations of the type of folk entertainment enjoyed by the British "movers" of the 1850's during the long voyage to America or Australia. Their games and riddles "reflected English folk interests," writes Dr. Jordan, and "reveal the type of material carried from the homeland to become a part of the folk pattern of the region in which the travelers eventually settled." In the same issue of the *Quarterly*, Joseph M. Carrière discusses "The present State of French Folklore Studies in North America." He suggests that French "folk songs and folk tales can still be collected in many communities founded between 1840 and 1890" in several western states, including Minnesota.

Paul Bunyan, know ye all, was born in the Tahquamenon River Valley of Michigan during May, 1849. His father was Ivan, the Russian; and his mother was an Ojibway quarter-breed. In *Paul Bunyan of the Great Lakes* (Chicago, Packard and Company, 1946), Stan Newton says so, and he ought to know. For many years he was editor of the Michigan *Bureau News*, which printed yarns of the giant lumberjack. Of course, Mr. Newton offers no evidence of anything that he writes, but, after all,

birth certificates and proof are only indications of a cramped mind. Mr. Newton's mind is not limited by the scholarly or legalistic. One suspects, as a matter of fact, that he may be a distant relative of the Russian-Indian Bunyan, for his imagination seems as elastic as an India-rubber flapjack and his tales as vivid as the pigmentation of the Blue Ox. Most laymen will enjoy this collection of thirty chapters, if they like sterile prose and a limping narrative style. The scholar—but who cares about him?—may raise his eyebrows until they catch on the tallest pine. Not only is it said that Paul was born in 1849, but it is also noted that he disappeared in 1890. Some students might comment that the Bunyan cycle was not known in the big woods until a later date, but such criticism might be relatively unimportant to Mr. Newton. The real worth of the volume lies not in folklore, but in international relations. The author's dedication reads in part: "Last but not least, to a better understanding between the peoples of Russia and the United States." PHILIP D. JORDAN

One of a series of weekly lectures on "Foreign Influences on American Civilization," presented from January 29 to March 6 on the campus of the University of Minnesota, dealt with "The Germans of Minnesota." It was delivered on February 19 by Professor Lynwood G. Downs, who has contributed several articles to this magazine. Another speaker who is familiar to its readers—Professor George M. Stephenson—discussed "Scandinavian Influences on American Life" on February 26.

The once busy town of Nor'west Angle that existed in the 1870's at the junction of the water route from Lake Superior and the Dawson Road to the Red River settlement is the subject of an informative article by Earl V. Chapin in the *Beaver* for March. What was known as the Dawson route extended from Fort William to Fort Garry. From the Lake Superior fort to the Northwest Angle of the Lake of the Woods, in what is actually Minnesota, it "was primarily a water route," Mr. Chapin points out. "At the Angle the water-borne freight, mail and passengers were loaded into carts and stage for the last lap" of the trip to the Canadian settlement, the writer reveals, "and it was at this focal transfer point, at the mouth of Harrison Creek, that the town of Nor'west Angle grew up." From contemporary diaries, newspapers, and travelers' narratives, Mr. Chapin has gleaned interesting bits of material descriptive of the little settlement. The fact that this Canadian town "was squarely and unmistakably founded on American soil," he writes,

"was a small technicality growing out of the vast absurdity of the Northwest Angle itself." With the completion of the Canadian Pacific Railway to Rat Portage, now Kenora, in 1881, Nor'west Angle and the Dawson route declined in importance and finally were forgotten. A second article in the March *Beaver* of special interest to Minnesotans is the story of a "North Woods Hunting Trip" made about 1890 by Ernest L. Brown, a taxidermist and guide who lived at Warren. The narrative, which is based upon diaries owned by the Minnesota Historical Society, tells of a moose hunt with Chippewa Indians in the vicinity of Warroad.

Frontier churches, schools, and inns, as well as private houses are described by Lillian Gibbons in an article on "Early Red River Homes," included among the published *Papers* of the Historical and Scientific Society of Manitoba for 1945-46 (72 p.). The author provides brief historical sketches and descriptions of early structures in the vicinity of Winnipeg, some of which are still standing.

The current issue of the *Western Ontario History Nuggets* (no. 12) is devoted to a check list of early newspaper files in local newspaper offices of western Ontario. The compiler, Elsie McLeod Murray, has arranged the list in several different ways—by towns and villages, by counties, and chronologically. Brief histories of the papers are included in the first list. The years covered by available files are indicated, and a special list of complete files is included.

A wealth of detailed information about the actors of the last century—the roles they played, the salaries they drew, the conditions under which they worked and lived, the way they obtained their training, the costumes they wore, and the theaters in which they acted—is to be found in Edward W. Mammen's little book entitled *The Old Stock Company School of Acting: A Study of the Boston Museum* (Boston, 1945. 89 p.). The author, who draws most of his material from accounts of the company that for decades played in the Boston Museum, believes they may be "used to exemplify the stock company system" throughout America.

Group medical practice "as an American institution owes its early rise in a large measure to the strong co-operative spirit of the Minnesota and Wisconsin pioneers and to the remarkable influence of the Mayo Clinic."

Thus writes Steven M. Spencer in an article entitled "Is the Clinic Your Best Bet?" appearing in the *Saturday Evening Post* for March 22. A recent survey, Mr. Spencer reports, shows clinics in every state except three, but the "greatest concentration is in Minnesota, with thirty-seven, Wisconsin, twenty-eight, California, thirty-one, and Texas, twenty-nine."

The final number of the *War Historian*, a publication of the American Association for State and Local History, appeared in February. It contains the third and last part of a survey of war records projects in the states of the Union. The *Historian* has been published since March, 1944, appearing originally as the *War Records Collector*.

NEWS FROM THE STATES

An unusual chapter in the history of scientific exploration in pre-territorial Minnesota is contributed by Marjorie F. Warner to the January issue of *Agricultural History*. It deals with the French scientist, F. V. "Lamare-Piquot and the Breadroot," the "tipsina" or prairie potato of the Sioux, which he attempted to introduce in France and develop as a cultivated food plant. A search for nutritious plants that would thrive in France and could be used there as a substitute for the Irish potato was one of the objects of Lamare-Piquot's first Minnesota visit of 1846—a visit which is described in his own words in an article published, in translation, in the issue of *Minnesota History* for September, 1925. Miss Warner adds some revealing sidelights to the story of the Frenchman's western travels, since her mother, who was a daughter of the Minnesota missionary Stephen R. Riggs, recalled clearly the visit of the scientist to the Lac qui Parle mission. There Lamare-Piquot went in August, 1848, during a second American journey, which had for its chief object the gathering of seeds and plants of the "tipsina" under instructions from the French ministry of agriculture. Unfortunately, the results of the scientist's efforts were in every way disappointing, according to Miss Warner.

The discovery of Minnesota Man near Pelican Rapids in 1931 receives some attention in Roy Chapman Andrews' chapter on "The First Americans" in his recent volume entitled *Meet Your Ancestors: A Biography of Primitive Man* (New York, 1946. 259 p.). The Minnesota skeleton, writes Mr. Andrews, is the only find relating to ancient man in North America that "has resulted in arousing real interest among anthropolo-

gists." He makes it clear, however, that "the poor little girl's skeleton was the cause of acid controversy," with Professor Alfred A. Jenks of the University of Minnesota as "her most ardent sponsor, and the late Dr. Ales Hrdlicka . . . her most vehement opponent." This and other Minnesota finds at Browns Valley and West Union, declares Mr. Andrews, "would fit nicely into the picture of Folsom Man and we may have him without being willing to admit the fact."

The January issue of the *Minnesota Archaeologist* is the third and final number to be devoted to reprints from early St. Paul newspapers of items about the Chippewa by William W. Warren (see *ante*, p. 77). The present installment consists of "Answers to Inquiries Regarding Chippewas" published originally in the *Minnesota Pioneer* for December, 1849.

Mr. G. Hubert Smith, curator of the museum of the Minnesota Historical Society, is the author of an article on "The Indian Prelude of Minnesota History," the first installment of which appears in the March number of *Golfer and Sportsman*. In the present section he calls attention to the role of the aborigines in the frontier history of Minnesota, and points out the cultural differences that marked the Sioux and the Chippewa.

Work on a biography of Father Francis Pierz, a Catholic missionary among the Chippewa of Minnesota and other states of the Northwest for more than three decades, has been started by Brother Lewis F. Furlan, a student in American history in the Catholic University of America. Pierz was ministering to the Indians at Grand Portage as early as 1838, and in 1852 he became identified with the diocese of St. Paul, working among both settlers and natives in central Minnesota, especially in what is now Stearns County. It is expected that Brother Furlan's biography will be published in 1952, as a Pierz centennial volume. Brother Furlan is anxious to locate letters or documents relating to Pierz and his work that may be in private hands. Anyone having such material or knowing where it is to be found is asked to communicate with him at the chancery office of the diocese of St. Cloud.

The story of Eastman Johnson's visit to Superior in the 1850's and of his sketching trips along the North Shore of Lake Superior was dramatized in a program broadcast from radio station KDAL in Duluth on

January 12. It was one of a series of programs entitled "Historic Site Ahead," sponsored by Freimuth's department store of Duluth. The St. Louis County Historical Society owns more than thirty of Johnson's paintings and sketches of the Lake Superior country. This significant collection was loaned to the Minnesota Historical Society for a special display in January and February. To call attention to the exhibit, the University of Minnesota radio station, KUOM, on January 25 devoted its program entitled "Drawing to Music" to Johnson's experience on the Minnesota and Wisconsin frontier. The program stimulated a large number of children to produce interesting drawings of Indians and frontier scenes, which they later sent to the station.

The "Timber King" of Richard G. Lillard's article in the initial number of the *Pacific Spectator* — that for the winter of 1947 — is Frederick Weyerhaeuser, "the biggest single man in the long story of harvesting the American forests" and "one of the least known." Professor Lillard bemoans the fact that "for no other distinguished American is information so scanty." The dearth of material about Weyerhaeuser means that "Until the family archives in St. Paul are opened to a biographer or historian, there will be a large gap in the story of the lumber industry during the boom days when it ranked in importance with iron and railroads." From incomplete and scattered sources now available, Mr. Lillard pieces together the story of the "Timber King" and the building of the great Weyerhaeuser fortune. The account of the founder's operations in the Chippewa Valley, and of the expansion into Minnesota and the states to the west, is given in brief outline. For them all, Mr. Lillard points out, "The nerve center was the old German-American Bank of St. Paul — the 'Weyerhaeuser Bank.'"

To explain the nature of the boom companies that were once engaged in "Sorting a Billion Feet of Logs" on Minnesota's streams, Edward H. Seidl contributes an illustrated article about their activities to the magazine supplement of the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for March 16. It was occasioned by the fact that a bill to repeal all boom company laws on the Minnesota statute books was introduced in the 1947 legislature. With the passing of lumbering operations in the state, boom companies have disappeared. A number of remarkable pictures, showing log jams and the sorting and rafting of logs, appear with Mr. Seidl's article.

The Folk Arts Foundation of America, Inc., is now issuing a monthly mimeographed sheet, the *North Star Folk News*. The first number appeared in January. Dr. Philip D. Jordan of the staff of the Minnesota Historical Society and the department of history in the University of Minnesota is the editor.

The Minnesota department of conservation has published a useful booklet giving concise information about *Minnesota State Parks, Memorials, Reserves, Waysides, and Monuments* (1946. 45 p.). The location, accessibility, features, recreational facilities, and something about the historic background are given for each area. The rules governing the parks and the fees charged for various types of services are included. All areas described are located on a decorative map.

As a prelude to the inauguration of Governor Youngdahl on January 8, the *St. Paul Dispatch* and *Pioneer Press* published surveys, by Jack Weinberg, of the careers of his twenty-six predecessors in the Minnesota Capitol. They appear in the daily issues of the *Dispatch* from January 1 to 8 and in the *Pioneer Press* for January 5. In the opening article Mr. Weinberg deals with the territorial governors, Ramsey, Gorman, and Medary; in the second he tells of the election of Sibley as the first governor of the state, and of the "45-year uninterrupted reign of Republican domination" that began when Ramsey returned to the statehouse in January, 1860. The stories of his successors are recorded on January 3 and 4. Two Democrats, John Lind and John A. Johnson, dominate the installment published on January 5, and that for January 7 tells of Floyd B. Olson and the Farmer-Labor regime.

The recollections of Minnesota politics published by Charles B. Cheney in the *Minneapolis Morning Tribune* in the autumn and early winter of 1946 (see *ante*, p. 73) have been assembled in a little book entitled *The Story of Minnesota Politics: High Lights of Half a Century of Political Reporting* (1947. 78 p.). Copies may be obtained at the public service department of the *Tribune* for one dollar each.

The University of Minnesota Press, which celebrates twenty years of publishing in 1947, is the subject of an article by Helen L. MacDonald, its sales and business manager, in the *Publishers' Weekly* for February 1. Its progress and its accomplishments through two decades are reviewed by the writer. At a dinner held on the university campus on March 28,

the press celebrated its anniversary and honored its founder and director, Mrs. Margaret Harding.

Several Minnesota radio stations are mentioned by E. P. J. Shurick in his recent volume on *The First Quarter-Century of American Broadcasting* (Kansas City, 1946). The author notes, for example, that in the fall of 1921 the University of Minnesota station, then known as 9XI and now as KUOM, broadcast a play-by-play account of a football game. Information for this pioneer broadcast reached the announcer "through notes brought to the station's studios by a relay of students from the sidelines at the field."

One of the state's newer organizations is the subject of a little *History of Minnesota Press Women, 1940-1946*, compiled and written by Catherine M. Sheire (10 p.). She reports that the group had its origin in September, 1940, when several women journalists met at Owatonna and planned a formal meeting to be held in Minneapolis in January, 1941. Mrs. Sheire describes the later meetings of the organization, tells of the growth of the organization, and lists the fifty-six women who were members in December, 1946.

A good example of the participation of a local institution in a state centennial is offered by Loras College of Dubuque, Iowa, which devotes two complete numbers of its quarterly, the *College Spokesman*, to "One Hundred Memories" of Iowa history. The issue for November is given over to sketches numbering "Fifty for the Wilderness, 1673-1846"; that for January contains "Fifty for the Commonwealth, 1846-1946." In the first group are brief accounts of such explorers as Hennepin, Perrot, Lewis and Clark, Pike, Schoolcraft, Long, Albert Lea, and George Catlin; of pioneers like Julien Dubuque, Father Mazzuchelli, and Bishop Loras; of changes in boundaries and government; of the beginnings of the Methodist and Catholic churches in Iowa; and of the founding of schools and colleges like Loras College, "the oldest institution of higher learning in the state of Iowa today," Clarke College, the state's "pioneer college for women," and Iowa Wesleyan College. Events in the political, industrial, agricultural, cultural, and military history of the state during its first century are described in the second group of fifty sketches. Many writers are represented in the two series; some contribute only one article, others, six or eight. In an introductory note, the editor, Roger J. Sullivan, expresses the hope that these centennial

numbers of the *Spokesman* will picture for its readers "Iowa's history as it unrolls" and give "authentic sidelights upon the State's immense development."

The Iowa "State Centennial Stamp," issued on August 3, 1946, is the subject of an article in the March *Palimpsest* by William J. Petersen, who tells how the design was selected and how the stamp was distributed. In an article on the "Postage Stamp Centennial" the same author commemorates the Congressional act of March 3, 1847, authorizing adhesive postage stamps.

In conjunction with the Iowa centennial of 1946, the Association of American Railroads issued a pamphlet containing *Reference Aids for Teachers and Students on Railway Development in Iowa* (Washington, 1946. 23 p.). It makes easily available a vast amount of information about Hawkeye railroads, including lists of "Important Dates in Iowa Railway History from 1836 to 1900," of men who played significant roles in the development of the Iowa railroads, and of railroad mileage from 1854 to 1944. There are bibliographies of books and articles that contain pertinent material, as well as histories of individual roads. A note on "Federal Land Grants" is accompanied by a map showing "U. S. Land Grants to Railroads" throughout the United States. The booklet is No. 3-1 of the association's *State Information Series*.

The John Morrell Company of Ottumwa calls attention to the Iowa centennial in the December issue of the *Morrell Magazine*, a publication designed for employees of the company. The entire number is devoted to an article entitled "Looking Backward on Hawkeyeland" by William J. Petersen of the State Historical Society of Iowa.

An important chapter in the literary history of the Middle West is contributed by Luella M. Wright to the January number of the *Iowa Journal of History and Politics*, where she reviews in great detail the story of the *Midland Monthly*. This periodical, which was published in Des Moines from January, 1894, to July, 1899, Miss Wright declares, "became a formative and lasting force in encouraging young writers to seek expression in prose and in verse," and it made its home city and the "Middle West felt as literary forces in their own areas and in the East." In recording the history of the magazine, the writer also provides a full-length portrait of its founder and editor, Johnson Brigham.

The "Farmer Lincoln" who owned two farms in Iowa is pictured by Homer Croy in the magazine section of the *Christian Science Monitor* for February 8. Both farms were purchased by Lincoln with land warrants issued for his service in the Black Hawk War of 1832. Mr. Croy tells something about the history and the present owner of the larger farm, which is located near Denison.

To mark the seventy-fifth anniversary of the "most spectacular event in the city's history," the Chicago Historical Society has published a little book on *The Great Chicago Fire* (1946. 85 p.). It is made up chiefly of contemporary letters written by seven men and women who experienced the horrors of the catastrophe. Dr. Paul M. Angle, director of the society, provides an introduction and notes. Pictures from the society's collections give vivid impressions of the havoc wrought by the fire, and decorative drawings lithographed in red and black reflect the terror felt by those who lived through it.

The December number of the *Indiana History Bulletin* is devoted to an "Indiana Almanac Calculated on a New and Unique Plan for the Year of Our Lord, 1947." For every day in the year are listed events of importance in the history of the state or of the Indiana Historical Bureau.

The paper on "Northern Folk Traditions" which Dr. Richard M. Dorson read before the St. Paul meeting of the Folk Arts Foundation of America on November 16, 1946, is printed in the March number of *Michigan History*, where it bears the title "Folk Traditions of the Upper Peninsula."

Dr. Louise Pound gives a broad interpretation to the subject of "Old Nebraska Folk Customs" in an article published in *Nebraska History* for January-March. Within its scope she sees fit to include practices connected with the celebration of such festivals as the Fourth of July, Christmas, New Year's, Easter, Hallowe'en, and Memorial Day; wedding and birthday customs; church bazaars, raffles, box socials, and similar forms of entertainment; sports, games, and theatricals; and various types of school activities, such as the spelling bee. The author makes clear, however, that most of the customs described "are really much older than their appearance in Nebraska," and that "in the main they are legacies from the British Isles or from the European continent." She might have added that Nebraska shares most of them with other western states.

To promote interest in local history and give instruction in the historical method were the objectives of a course offered by the Rochester Museum of Arts and Sciences from January 8 to April 23. It was entitled "Sources of Local History for Amateur Historians," and it consisted of lectures by curators and librarians of Rochester institutions.

A folklore page entitled "So They Tell Me" is among the most popular features in *The Yorker*, the magazine for juniors issued by the New York State Historical Association, according to Mary E. Cunningham, who writes about "The Yorker's Folklore Contest" in the spring issue of the *New York Folklore Quarterly*. She reveals that the contest, in which classes participated as groups, resulted in the unearthing of more than fourteen hundred items.

Like other institutions, historical societies frequently use anniversaries as excuses for examining and reviewing their own pasts. A recent example is Arthur C. Parker's "Review of the Development of the New York State Historical Association, 1899-1946," which appears in *New York History* for January. The youth of this eastern historical society as compared with the age of similar organizations in the Middle West will doubtless come as a surprise to many Minnesotans. Probably they need not be reminded that the Minnesota Historical Society will mark its centennial in less than two years.

Fort Abraham Lincoln in North Dakota is pictured as "A Typical Frontier Military Post" in a group of forts that included Fort Snelling and Fort Ripley by Arnold O. Goplen in the October number of *North Dakota History*. His study of "The Historical Significance of Fort Lincoln State Park," prepared for the National Park Service in 1938, occupies the entire issue of the quarterly. He includes much information about the general military organization of the Northwest under the Department of Dakota, about the Fisk expeditions, and about other topics of wider interest than the actual history of the post.

From Ox-teams to Eagles: A History of the Texas and Pacific Railway is the title of an attractive booklet issued to commemorate the seventy-fifth anniversary of a railroad that serves sections of Louisiana and Texas (1946. 50 p.). The road's predecessors in the two southern states, the men who built it, the country it helped to settle, its colonization work, and similar topics are touched upon. Numerous illustrations

graphically depict the development of the country through which the road passes.

Readers of this magazine who last year enjoyed Judge Oscar Hallam's delightful reminiscences of his boyhood on a Midwest farm of the 1870's are advised to turn to the *Wisconsin Magazine of History* for March, where another chapter of the judge's recollections appears under the title "Bloomfield and Laxey Methodism." There the Minnesota jurist recalls the rural churches of the community near Dodgeville, Wisconsin, that he knew as a boy. He makes it clear that both the religious and social life of the local farm families centered in these churches, and he describes in great detail the church picnics, where ice cream and lemonade were the chief attractions.

From the standpoint of emigration, colonization, and settlement history, Miriam B. Theiler's little book on *New Glarus' First 100 Years* is one of unusual interest and merit (Madison, 1946. 111 p.). It commemorates the centennial of the founding in 1845 of the Swiss colony in Green County, Wisconsin. The writer describes the steps by which the site was selected, the migration of the colonists, the throes of adjustment to the new environment, the characteristic economic growth, and the survival to the present of Old World customs. Extracts from diaries kept by some of the colonists and from the official records of the group give both color and an air of authenticity to the narrative. Many of the illustrations depict characters and scenes from the production of "Wilhelm Tell" given annually at New Glarus.

Logs on the Menominee: The History of the Menominee River Boom Company by Fred C. Barke, former secretary of the company, is an excellent account of a Wisconsin firm engaged in one phase of the logging industry (Marinette, Wisconsin, 1946. 98 p.). Streams were the transportation facilities used to take logs to the sawmills. With various loggers using the same stream, difficulties in driving, sorting, and delivering logs arose. The solution was to organize an independent company which would drive "all logs down river, sort and deliver them to their rightful owners." In addition, the boom company, which was in the nature of a public utility, built dams and other river improvements to assure an adequate supply of water for the log drivers. The author makes quite clear the functions and work of the boom company. Numerous photographs

are reproduced in the book as an aid to the reader. A useful, though short, glossary of logging terms, is included. R. C. L.

A useful tool for anyone interested in the field of Northwest history is a consolidated *Index to the Wisconsin Magazine of History* published by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin (1946. 195 p.). Compiled by Lillian Kreuger, it covers volumes 16 to 25, issued from September, 1932, to June, 1942.

The development of the Wyoming State Historical Department is the subject of an article in the *Annals of Wyoming* for January. The department traces its beginnings to 1895, when the third state legislature passed an act creating the Wyoming Historical Society.

HISTORY IN THE COMMUNITY

That there is an important market in Minnesota for the steel produced from iron mined in the state is brought out in "A Tale of Two Cities," an article in the *U. S. Steel News* for January. Perhaps far less well known than the great mines of the Oliver Iron Mining Company on the Mesabi and Vermilion ranges is the fact "that right in the 'backyard' of these producing facilities is a large and growing market for U. S. Steel products," reads this account. It deals chiefly with the "focal point" of the sales area, in the Twin Cities, each of which has a plant of the company. Reviewed in the article are the histories of these two concerns—the American Bridge Company of Minneapolis and the warehouse of the United States Steel Supply Company in St. Paul.

Mr. N. E. Given, who served as a member of the Bemidji park commission from 1917 to 1936, is the author of a "History of Bemidji's Parks" published in installments in the *Bemidji Sentinel* from January 10 to February 7. The narrative includes information about land acquired from time to time for park purposes, lists of park board officers and members, notes on the statues of Chief Bemidji and Paul Bunyan in local parks, and a history of the local Tourist Information Building and its "Fireplace of the States." Excursion trips on Lake Bemidji made by the steamboat "Ida" in 1898 are described in the *Sentinel* for March 21. The boat was owned by C. J. Carlson, whose son, Mr. H. J. Carlson, has an old poster issued to advertise the excursions.

To mark "75 Years of Progress" in Clay County, which was officially organized in April, 1872, the *Clay Sunday Press* of Moorhead has been publishing articles about the section's pioneer history. Early sports and social entertainments are described on February 16; Red River floods are recalled on February 23 and March 2; the activities of the Moorhead Rod and Gun Club are described on March 2; and the history of Hawley is reviewed, with special attention to the Yeovil colony, in a special series beginning in the issue for March 9.

The story of Episcopal missions and church activity in northern Minnesota is outlined in a booklet issued by St. Paul's parish of Brainerd to commemorate its seventy-fifth anniversary (1946. 15 p.). Such pioneer churchmen as Bishop Jackson Kemper, Bishop Henry B. Whipple, the Reverend James Lloyd Breck, and the Reverend E. G. Gear figure in the narrative, which includes information about the frontier missions of St. Columba and Crow Wing.

Some records of an early general store at Farmington are exploited in an article about its beginnings in the *Dakota County Tribune* of Farmington for January 24. It is based in large part upon a journal kept by the founder, C. H. Griebie, in 1880, the year the store was built and opened. Many items of special economic interest are included, such as salaries paid to laborers, and prices of farm products and merchandise.

A detailed biographical sketch of Judge Andrew G. Chatfield, for whom the village of Chatfield was named, appears in the *Chatfield News* of March 13. The author appears to be J. Fletcher Williams, an early librarian of the Minnesota Historical Society. The sketch was obtained from Mr. Frank Chatfield of Oconomowoc, Wisconsin, a descendant of Judge Chatfield.

Miss Ruth Thompson devotes her column of "Minnesota Memories" in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for February 3 to a description of some of the conveyances used in the pioneer interurban traffic between St. Paul and St. Anthony. She points out that two lines of stagecoaches were operating between the frontier communities in 1851. The same writer reviews the history of the old Kenwood Armory of Minneapolis in the issues for January 20 and 27; and she tells something about the islands in the Mississippi at Minneapolis in her article for February 17.

The impressions made by Minneapolis upon "An Innocent at Large" who visited the city recently as a representative of *Punch or the London Charivari* are recorded in its issue for November 20. The article is one of a series on American cities prepared by a British correspondent who spent a "few months in America to find out what is really happening over there."

The Grand Rapids Business Men's Association and Board of Trade, organized in 1895, is the subject of the column "Up in This Neck of the Woods" appearing in the *Grand Rapids Herald-Review* for January 16. The officers of the pioneer civic organization are named, and its activities are described. The work of early Catholic missionaries of northern Minnesota among the Chippewa is reviewed in the column published on February 20. That for March 13 is devoted to the career of L. G. Hedman, whose skiing exploits were famed in the early decades of the present century.

The centennial of Harriet Bishop's arrival in St. Paul to found its earliest school, which is commemorated elsewhere in this issue, is marked by the *St. Paul Dispatch* in a feature article by Will Reeves published on March 14. Illustrating the narrative are a portrait of Miss Bishop and a picture of a sewing cabinet, once owned by the pioneer teacher, which now is in the museum of the Minnesota Historical Society.

Mr. George G. Allanson, a grandson of Joseph R. Brown, retells the story of the Brown family's adventures during the Sioux War of 1862 in the *Wheaton Gazette* for February 21. Basing his account on the recollections of his mother, who was Ellen Brown, he tells of the hasty flight, early on the morning of August 19, of the Browns and some of their neighbors, and of their subsequent capture by the hostile Sioux. The comfortable stone house which Major Brown had built for his family in 1861 near Sacred Heart and its furnishings were left behind and were burned by the Indians. Mr. Allanson records that it was not until 1918 that his mother again visited the site and saw the ruins of her former home. Several illustrations, including a view of the ruins of the house, illustrate the article. With some additional illustrations, the narrative has been reprinted in a pamphlet entitled *Stirring Adventures of the Joseph R. Brown Family* (20 p.).

The incorporation of Faribault as a city in 1872 is recalled in the *Faribault Journal* for March 27, which reminds its readers that the sev-

enty-fifth anniversary of the event occurs this year. With the present account appears the address given by Mayor George W. Tower at the first meeting of the new city's officials on April 9, 1872.

The "Million-Dollar Show-Off," Dan Patch, purchased in 1902 by Marion W. Savage of Minneapolis, is the subject of an article by Roscoe Macy in the *Reader's Digest* for March. In acquiring the horse, Savage used a "brand-new advertising technique," reads the account, for he bought the pacer to promote the product of the International Stock Food Company, which he owned. The spectacular years that followed, during which "record after record fell beneath the hoofs of the intelligent, lovable bay," made him the "top money horse of all time," according to Mr. Macy. Dan Patch, he writes, "grossed an estimated million dollars for his owner in seven years of exhibition races, plus another million or so in indirect returns." This interesting contribution to the history of Minnesota sports appeared originally in *Esquire* for September, 1946; the condensed version published in the *Reader's Digest* is reprinted in the magazine section of the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for March 9.

The role played by such Stearns County settlements as Paynesville, Cold Spring, and Richmond in the Sioux War of 1862 is described in the *Cold Spring Record* for February 5. Mention is made of a fort at Paynesville and a stockade at Richmond built to defend the new communities.

The seventy-fifth anniversary of a pioneer Swift County school was marked by the publication of a history of School District No. 1 in the *Swift County Monitor* of Benson for January 17. The organization of the district in January, 1871, is recorded, and the members of the first board are named. As late as 1883, the school term lasted for only three months, and the one teacher received a salary of thirty dollars a month.

In the *Minneapolis Tribune* for January 14, George Grim reviews the story of the "Old Wasser Kur Building at St. Michael," erected some sixty years ago by Joseph Vetch of Minneapolis. Before building his sanitarium in the Wright County village, Vetch sent Francis Frederick to Europe to make a study of popular spas there, according to this account. The St. Michael institution followed the old-world pattern, but it was too remote to become popular among patients desiring a

water-cure treatment. In later years it housed a patent-medicine business, Mr. Grim reports.

LOCAL SOCIETIES AT WORK

To display and care for the wealth of Indian material, largely of Chippewa origin, that characterizes the Cass Lake area, the Chippewa Region Historical Society maintains an interesting museum in the village of Cass Lake. The museum is a co-operative project. Its building, a substantial stone structure of rugged appearance, was erected in 1941 by the Cass Lake Junior Chamber of Commerce, whose members felt that a historical and Indian museum which could serve also as an information bureau would give the community an effective tourist attraction. Church and other groups, as well as individuals, helped to equip the building; the village owns the land on which it stands; the county board gives it a small annual appropriation; and the Civic and Commerce Association pays the salary of the curator during the summer months when the museum is open. Like the building, the displays can be traced to a community spirit of co-operation. They come chiefly from private collections, and the owners have loaned them to the museum.

The curator, as well as the owner of the museum's most important exhibit materials, is Mr. F. T. Gustafson. Of outstanding interest among the displays is his own archaeological collection, assembled during many years of personal research. It consists of bowls, potsherds, stone axes and hammers, arrowheads, pipes, flints, and similar remains of primitive cultures, filling a group of cases at one end of the large museum room. The display is built about a unique culinary bowl, found intact by Mr. Gustafson while excavating a mound near Pequot in Crow Wing County. The vessel, which measures fourteen and a half inches in diameter and has a capacity of five and a half gallons, is believed to be the only complete earthen bowl of prehistoric origin ever recovered from a Minnesota mound. It merits the place of honor in a case by itself which it occupies at Cass Lake. Mr. Gustafson's collection includes also three bowls or urns that have been restored, and one that is partially reconstructed. All are characterized by decorations typical of Minnesota's prehistoric cultures.

Represented also is the recent and contemporary culture of the Minnesota Chippewa. The museum has on display an authentic birch-bark canoe, as well as a small-scale model of a Chippewa lodge made

of branches and bark by an Indian woman who had actually lived in such a dwelling. Sticks used in harvesting wild rice and a bark dish used to winnow the cereal are displayed with a sample of this staple native food. Drums, drum sticks, bags, and rattles reflect the mysteries of the grand medicine lodge. Some impressive examples of modern Chipewewa beadwork add a note of color to the displays. They include a complete costume of black velvet gaily decorated with beaded floral patterns, moccasins, shoulder bags, dolls, and a shirt or jacket of deer-skin. Some of these articles were loaned by Mr. Gustafson; others belong to Mr. C. N. Christianson, Mr. Tom McKusick, and other local collectors.

Although the Cass Lake museum is open for only ten to twelve weeks in the height of the tourist season, it attracts from eight to ten thousand visitors each year. Forty-four states and several foreign countries were represented in the crowds of tourists who trooped through the little stone building in 1946 and left their names on its register. Mr. Gustafson himself acts as guide and tells the story of the displays, for there are few labels to explain their significance. It is his personal interest that makes the museum an important tourist attraction and a vital factor in the life of the Cass Lake community. B.L.H.

The trustees of the Fillmore County Historical Society, meeting in Preston on March 18, voted to sell the house acquired under the terms of the will of Mrs. John C. Mills (see *ante*, 25: 406). The house has been used as a museum by the society, which plans to buy a building in the business section of Preston.

"Seeing Our Past Through the Eyes of Our Contemporaries" was the subject of a talk given by Dean Theodore C. Blegen of the University of Minnesota graduate school before a meeting of the Hennepin County Historical Society in Minneapolis on March 5. The organization's annual meeting, which was held on January 22, was devoted to a round-table discussion of the society's value to the community. Most of the officers of the society were re-elected; new officers are Mr. Guy Alexander, who was named vice-president, and Mr. George W. Mathews, a director.

The Martin County Historical Society, its history and its activities, was the subject of a talk given by Judge Julius E. Haycraft before the Rotary Club of Fairmont on February 3. The speaker reminded his

hearers that in another decade Martin County will be celebrating its centennial.

A collection of some three thousand Indian objects, such as arrow-heads, stone hammers, and other implements, was presented to the Nobles County Historical Society by Mr. P. O. Lien of Worthington after the death of Mrs. Lien, who helped him assemble and classify them. More than nine-tenths of the items in this notable collection were discovered by Mr. and Mrs. Lien in Nobles County or other parts of Minnesota, according to the February *Bulletin* of the society. The issue contains an announcement that the society's membership has now passed the hundred mark.

At a meeting of the Olmsted County Historical Society in Rochester on March 19, plans were made for co-operating with the Minnesota Historical Society in the celebration of the territorial centennial in 1949. Officers of the society who were installed at the meeting include Mr. E. H. Schlitgus, president, Miss Ella Graff, secretary, and Mr. Lester Fiegel, treasurer. A recent addition to the society's collections, which is announced in the *Rochester Post-Bulletin* for February 25, is a bound file of the *Olmsted County Teacher* extending over the years from 1903 to 1938. It is the gift of Mr. Forrest J. Bandel, county superintendent of schools. The periodical, which was published for rural teachers and school officials in the county, was established in February, 1903.

Mr. Richard R. Sackett, field director of the Minnesota Historical Society, spoke before a meeting of the Pope County Historical Society at Glenwood on February 3. He took as his subject "Local Historical Museums in Minnesota," describing their work and activities and pointing out their value to the community.

Members of the St. Anthony Park Area Historical Association gathered in the auditorium of the Historical Building in St. Paul on February 23 to hear a paper on "Our Heritage of Names" by Mary W. Berthel of the staff of the Minnesota Historical Society.

"Minnesota Grows Up" was the subject of a talk given by Dr. Arthur J. Larsen, superintendent of the state historical society, before the Rice County Historical Society meeting in Northfield on March 10. The program included a group of songs of special Minnesota interest, sung by Miss Marjorie Hognander. Dr. Nuba Pletcher, the society's

president, has announced that his organization expects to complete the restoration of the Faribault House by 1949 as Rice County's special contribution to the territorial centennial celebration.

According to an announcement in the *Waseca Journal* for February 26, Mrs. F. D. Scholljegerdes has been named president of the Waseca County Historical Society. She succeeds Mr. R. T. Barry. Other officers of the society are Mr. Herman Peterson, vice-president, and Mr. H. A. Panzram, secretary.

The history of some of the pioneer schools of Washington County was reviewed by Mrs. Grace McAlpine, county superintendent of schools, before a meeting of the Washington County Historical Society at Bayport on January 29. She told in some detail about the Washington Academy opened in Stillwater in the fall of 1854 to provide a classical education for the children of the new community's more prosperous residents. Schools at Red Rock, Point Douglas, and Afton also were mentioned. The principal speaker at a meeting of the society held on March 15 was Mr. Earl Vitalis of Stillwater. He discussed the history of Franconia in Chisago County, where he formerly lived. His talk is reviewed in the *Stillwater Gazette* for March 17, which contains an announcement of a meeting, arranged jointly by the Washington and Chisago County historical societies, to be held at Franconia on July 13.

FOR MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY USERS

During the summer months, from May 31 to September 1, the Historical Building will be open Monday through Friday from 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M., and from 8:30 A.M. to 12:00 M. on Saturday. There will be no Sunday openings during the summer.

Under the terms of a bill passed by the 1947 Minnesota legislature and signed by Governor Youngdahl on April 14, the Minnesota Historical Society receives an appropriation of \$150,000 to prepare and carry out in a fitting manner a commemoration of Minnesota's territorial centennial in 1949. To finance the celebration, the bill provides \$50,000 for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 1947, and \$100,000 for the following year. As the official state agency in charge of the centennial, the society will supervise and administer a fourfold, state-wide program. It will consist of an educational program reaching all the

schools of Minnesota; an industrial program showing how the state's industries have developed; a social program that will exploit the cultural, religious, social, and political forces which have molded Minnesota's individuality; and an agricultural program that will describe the state's farming heritage and reveal a prosperity that has its roots in the soil of the upper Mississippi Valley. Upon signing the bill, the Governor expressed confidence that "the Minnesota Historical Society will expend the funds to best advantage and will enlist the enthusiastic support of citizens and organizations throughout the state in making the centennial a great success."

On March 3, the ninety-eighth anniversary of Minnesota's organization as a territory, the society, which was founded in the first few months of territorial existence, held its ninety-eighth annual meeting. The annual business meeting took place in the auditorium of the Historical Building on January 20. The meeting of March 3 took the form of a luncheon at the St. Paul Hotel, followed by a program of talks and addresses revolving about the theme of the territorial centennial. About two hundred people gathered for the event. Judge Kenneth G. Brill, the society's president, who presided, opened the program by presenting a dozen people, other than speakers participating in the program, who were seated at the head table. He then introduced Governor Youngdahl, who expressed approval of the society's plan for a centennial celebration and gave assurance of whole-hearted support and approval of the centennial bill then before the legislature. He was followed by Mr. Quintus C. Wilson, night editor of the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, who read a paper on "Minnesota Newspapers and the Centennial." He stressed the fact that his own paper will mark a century of publication in 1949, since it was founded by James M. Goodhue in the spring of 1849. He mentioned some of the pioneer editor's successors in the newspaper offices of the state—Joseph A. Wheelock, William B. Mitchell, Harlan P. Hall, and others—and suggested that the newspapers should acquaint their readers with the centennial plans by giving them "full spread." In addition to "looking forward to the Minnesota centennial celebration," he said, "the newspapers will be observing their own hundredth anniversary of printing in this area."

Plans for the centennial observance, as they had been formulated by a committee of the council of the society, were explained by its chair-

man, Mr. Lawrence A. Rossman of Grand Rapids. He defined the centennial as a "great cause in which all citizens could participate in some constructive manner," and demonstrated that it would give Minnesotans an opportunity to reappraise the state's past in all phases of life and activity. "I think the observance of the centennial is indeed a serious task and challenge to the people of the state," said Mr. Rossman in conclusion. From it, he added, "I hope will come a better understanding of the state and its history, and with it inspiration based upon better knowledge." The final speaker on the program, Dr. Jim Dan Hill, president of the State Teachers College at Superior, Wisconsin, took as his subject "The Lawyer, the Historian, and the Truth." He reached the conclusion that "the historian and the lawyer, working in a spirit of critical inquiry, have similar problems. Both use evidence in their efforts to arrive at the truth and both work from documents." He feels, however, that "the historian has an advantage over the lawyer," for "the historian doesn't have a client breathing down his neck," and he is thus as a rule "far removed from the emotion and tenseness of the moment." History, he said, "creates a feeling of unity" in a people, and the celebration of the Minnesota centennial should "engender pride in the peoples of Minnesota" and give them a sense of historical unity.

The superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society is the executive secretary of the Minnesota State Archives Commission created under an act passed by the 1947 legislature. Other members of the commission are the state auditor, the attorney general, the public examiner, and the commissioner of administration. The latter is ex-officio chairman of the newly created commission. It is given the power to prescribe rules for the preparation, care, and preservation of state archives, as well as authorization to carry out a regulated plan for the destruction of records that no longer have value, and to have others microfilmed or otherwise reproduced before they are destroyed. Copies of records made under the supervision of the commission are to "be admissible as evidence in all courts and in proceedings of every kind." The commission has the "power to acquire by purchase or to lease such equipment, machines and instruments . . . as may be necessary to enable it to carry out its duties and powers," and it is "to employ such agents and personnel as may be necessary for that purpose." To enable the commission to carry out its duties, the sum of \$10,000 is appropriated for each year of the biennium beginning on July 1, 1947.

The index for volume 27 of *Minnesota History* has been completed, and copies are now ready for distribution. They may be obtained without extra charge by members of the society and subscribers to its publications. A limited number of volumes of the quarterly for 1946 are being bound to match earlier volumes in the series. As soon as they are completed, they will be available at \$1.25 each to anyone who returns to the society the four issues of *Minnesota History* published last year.

Since *Minnesota History* adopted a new cover design in the spring of 1946, many other historical journals have made similar changes in format. In general, the new covers are characterized by simplicity of design and by the use of striking colors. *Michigan History*, for example, has discarded a pictorial design in favor of a simple arrangement of type and an outline map of the state all etched in white against a background of fresh green. The *Indiana Magazine of History* supplants its old gray cover with a striking arrangement of rust, beige, and black. A design of hunter's green sharply contrasted with white replaces the dull pearl gray and black formerly used by the *Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Quarterly*. Other quarterlies that have made conspicuous changes in recent months are the *Pacific Historical Review* and the *Journal* of the Illinois State Historical Society.

Few articles published in this magazine have aroused as much interest as Philip D. Jordan's "Toward a New Folklore," which appeared in the issue for December, 1946. In a single week recently requests for reprints reached the society from Delaware, Ohio, and from Santa Fe, New Mexico. In demand also is Miss Stanchfield's article on the early ballad that advertised Minnesota as "The Beauty of the West." Both articles were reprinted for the Folk Arts Foundation of America, Inc.

Under the terms of an act passed by the legislature of 1947, state departments and agencies are directed to turn over to the Minnesota Historical Society three copies of any publications they may issue. The society is to add two copies to its own collection, and to send the third to the Library of Congress.

Portraits of two distinguished Minnesota lawyers—Justice Pierce Butler of the United States Supreme Court and Mr. William D. Mitchell, attorney general of the United States from 1929 to 1933—were presented to the society in a special ceremony in the auditorium of the

Historical Building at 4:00 P.M. on April 3. Judge Kenneth G. Brill, president of the society, opened the program, and Mr. Henry N. Benson, a member of its executive council, presided. Mr. Wilfrid E. Rumble presented the portrait of Justice Butler, and it was accepted on behalf of the society by Chief Justice Charles Loring of the Minnesota Supreme Court. The likeness of Attorney General Mitchell was presented by Mr. Michael J. Doherty and accepted by Mr. Bergmann Richards of the society's executive council. An address by Mr. Michael J. Galvin, president of the Minnesota State Bar Association, concluded the program. About a hundred people were present. The portraits, which consist of photographic enlargements, are the gifts of Mr. Pierce Butler, Jr., of St. Paul and of Mr. Mitchell, who resides in New York. They are now on display in the society's museum.

Users of the society's library who have followed with interest the growth of its Hennepin collection will be glad to learn that another unusual item about the Belgian friar who discovered the Falls of St. Anthony in 1680 can now be consulted in the reading room. It is the second edition of a paper-bound pamphlet by Felix van Hulst, published at Liège in Belgium in 1845 under the title *Notice sur le P. Hennepin d'Ath* (48 p.). Van Hulst wrote his brochure because he believed his fellow Belgians should know more about their countryman, Louis Hennepin of Ath, who had long been claimed by the French. The booklet contains a chronological account of the friar's career, based upon sources available a century ago. Much of the narrative deals with Hennepin's travels in the upper Mississippi Valley and with his long dispute with La Salle.

Genealogists who are interested in Quaker records will be glad to know that the society has received the Ohio records, volumes 4 and 5, of the *Encyclopedia of American Quaker Genealogy* by William W. Hinshaw (Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1946). Other additions to the local history collection include a *Complete Name Index to the Pioneer History of the Holland Purchase of Western New York* by O. Turner compiled by La Verne C. Cooley (Batavia, New York, 1946. 42 p.); volume 21 of the *American Genealogical Index*, in which surnames from Kelsey to Landys are indexed; *A History of Williamsburg in Massachusetts* by Phyllis B. Deming (Northampton, Massachusetts, 1946. 416 p.); *Marriage and Death Notices in Raleigh Register and North Carolina State Gazette, 1826-1845* compiled by Carrie L. Broughton

(Raleigh, North Carolina, 1947. 402 p.); and *The French Broad-Holston Country, a History of Knox County, Tennessee* published by the East Tennessee Historical Society (Knoxville, Tennessee, 1946. 573 p.).

Extracts from the memoirs of Jonathan T. Grimes, a pioneer Minneapolis nurseryman, are included in *The Grimes Family* by Mary A. Grimes (Minneapolis, 1946. 70 p.), recently added to the society's genealogical collection. Minnesota families are also mentioned in *The History of the Dillman Family* by Spencer H. Smith (Wayzata, 1947. 8 p.); *The Gipson Family of Maine* by Donald L. Jacobus (Minneapolis, 1946. 68 p.); *From Whence We Came, a Genealogy for the Five Hansons Who Grew Up Together on a North Wisconsin Farm* by Robert P. Hanson (1945. 39 p.); *Revision to 1946 of the First Supplement to the Thomas Stanley Section of the "Stanley Families of America"* by E. D. Stanley (Minneapolis, 1946. 61 p.); and *Josiah B. Vrooman (Vroman), His Ancestors and Descendants* by Lora V. Randall and Florence V. Houghton (El Paso, Texas, 1946. 217 p.).

Other family histories recently acquired include *Meet the Blair Family* by Mervin A. Miller (Hollidaysburg, Pennsylvania, 1946. 64 p.); *The Descendants of Coll^o Giles Brent, Cap^t George Brent and Robert Brent, Gent* by Chester H. Brent (Rutland, Vermont, 1946. 195 p.), given as a memorial to a former member by the Minnesota Daughters of the American Colonists; *Early Virginia Guthries and their Kentucky Descendants* by Joseph A. Guthrie (Kansas City, Missouri, 1946. 96 p.); *A History of the Heverly Family* by Neal F. Mears (Chicago, 1945. 340 p.); *Myers and Eatherton Families of Hancock and Wyandotte Counties, Ohio* by Lester T. Wilson (St. Petersburg, Florida, 1946. 12 p.); *The Sanders of Kentucky* by Walter R. Sanders (Litchfield, Illinois, 1946. 22 p.); *The Scherer Family of Montgomery County, Illinois* by Walter R. Sanders (Litchfield, Illinois, 1945. 57 p.); *The Shipp Genealogy* by Walter R. Sanders (Litchfield, Illinois, 1946. 50 p.); *History of the Wegman Families* by Charles S. Wegman (Reading, Pennsylvania, 1946. 70 p.); *Descendants of James Welch, Soldier in King Philip's War, 1675-76* by Charles B. Welch (Tacoma, Washington, 1946. 48 p.); and *A Branch of the Woodruff Family* by Stephen A. Woodruff (Chicago, 1945. 15 p.).

L. M. F.

The society now has a complete file of the *New Ulm Pioneer* from the first number published on January 1, 1858, through August 16,

1862. This important addition to the collection of Minnesota German-language newspapers was received under the terms of the will of the late Hugo Roos of Kansas City, of which Mr. C. B. Libbert of Camby, Indiana, is executor. Previously the society had only a partial file of the *Pionier* for the period from January 7, 1860, to June 7, 1862. The newly acquired file is bound in three volumes. The manuscript account books of the *Pionier* are included in another important group of materials for the history of the Germans in Minnesota, also received through Mr. Libbert's courtesy. This is in the form of two boxes and twenty-six volumes of Roos Papers, accumulated chiefly by Hugo Roos and his father, Charles Roos. The elder Roos was one of the pioneer German colonists of New Ulm, captain of the local volunteer militia that defended the settlement in the trying days of the Sioux Outbreak of 1862, and a prominent leader in the community's business and social life. His papers are rich in material about the history of New Ulm, with original records of such organizations as the German Land Association of Minnesota and the local Turnverein. The collection includes also the business records of such firms as the New Ulm Roller Mill and Globe Mills companies, the Nordecht Publishing Company, and a cigar store. A large and varied group of items—letters, clippings, pamphlets, and the like— assembled by Hugo Roos, who wrote extensively on the history of New Ulm, accompanies the gift.

Photostatic copies of three letters of 1838 and 1840 and two documents relating to the career of Lyman Warren, a Minnesota and Wisconsin fur trader, have been made for the society from originals in the possession of the Becker County Historical Society at Detroit Lakes.

Items of Minnesota interest selected from the papers of Judge Charles P. Daly of New York for a five-year period beginning in July, 1855, have been copied on microfilm for the society from the originals in the possession of the New York Public Library. Daly was a capitalist who speculated extensively in Minnesota lands in the 1850's, and many of the letters now available in St. Paul are from his western agents, D. A. Robertson and Hermann Trost. They are particularly valuable for the information they contain about economic conditions in the frontier territory. Among Daly's other Minnesota correspondents were Governor Alexander Ramsey and the Reverend E. D. Neill. The papers reveal that Judge Daly, who was a life member of the Minnesota Historical

Society, took a deep interest in its early activities. One item in the collection shows that in July, 1856, the executive council of the society resolved to send Daly a "profile of the ground and a plan of the basement of the Hall and request him to procure an architect to draft the superstructure" of a proposed building for the society. R. L.

A large number of important items, including sermons, letters, reminiscences, and reports, have been added to the extensive collection of the papers of Bishop Henry B. Whipple by Mrs. J. A. Burt and Mrs. B. W. Scandrett of St. Paul (see *ante*, 12: 317, 429). Included are letters relating to Whipple's visit to Washington in 1862 after the Sioux Massacre of that year. Photostatic copies of three letters that Whipple wrote to President Hayes in 1880, 1889, and 1890, and two that he addressed to W. R. Rogers in 1877 and 1880 have been made for the society from originals in the Hayes Memorial Library at Fremont, Ohio.

About half a ton of records accumulated by the Root River State Bank of Chatfield during the years from 1888 to 1941 have been turned over to the society by its president, Mr. George A. Haven. They supplement materials relating to the same bank received in 1933 with the papers of J. C. Easton (see *ante*, 15: 111). The two collections constitute an important source of information about economic conditions and financial history in southern Minnesota from 1856 to the beginning of the 1940's. In order to protect his clientele, however, Mr. Haven has placed definite restrictions on the use of the papers that constitute his gift.

To the records of the Trinity Lutheran Church of St. Paul available in the Historical Building, Miss Constance Martin has added nine volumes. They include the treasurers' book of the Ladies Aid for the years from 1888 to 1924, and minutes of the church council from 1911 to 1924, of the board of deacons from 1915 to 1932, and of a junior organization from 1936 to 1940.

WHO'S WHO IN THIS ISSUE

Mr. Andrew F. Jensen, who contributes to this number an informing review of professional dramatic entertainment in Minnesota from 1865 to 1885, is a teacher of science in the Patrick Henry High School of Minneapolis. He is the author of an unpublished study of the "Devel-

opment of Owatonna," and he assisted Dr. Edgar B. Wesley in the preparation of a history of the city published in 1938 under the title *Owatonna, The Social Development of a Minnesota Community*.

Dr. Henry S. Lucas is professor of European history in the University of Washington at Seattle. The Reverend Herman Borgers' account of Dutch settlement in Minnesota, edited by Professor Lucas for publication in this magazine, is one of "nearly a hundred narratives written by immigrants" that he has assembled in the course of a special study of Dutch settlement in America. "The whole group constitutes a fairly full account of the history of Dutch immigration to this country," writes Professor Lucas. He is at present spending some time in Holland, Michigan, in order to continue his studies in the Netherlands Museum of that city.

The centennial of the arrival in Minnesota of St. Paul's pioneer teacher is marked in this issue of *Minnesota History* by the publication of Mrs. Zylpha S. Morton's article on Harriet Bishop. Mrs. Morton, a former St. Paul teacher and Girl Scout executive, is a member of a writing group of the St. Paul College Club. She has published poems, stories, and articles in such periodicals as *Nature Magazine*, the *Reader's Digest*, and *Country Life*, and she is the author of several plays produced by a St. Paul church group.

Dr. Grace Lee Nute of the staff of the Minnesota Historical Society and Dr. Richard Bardon of Duluth present in this number the second installment of George Nelson's reminiscences, describing his experiences as a fur trader in the St. Croix Valley in the winter of 1802-03 (see *ante*, p. 95). The review of the activities of the state's Junior Historians appearing in the section devoted to "Minnesota History and the Schools" is by the superintendent of the society, Dr. Arthur J. Larsen.

The first of the book reviews in this issue was written by Professor John Francis McDermott of the department of English in Washington University of St. Louis. As the holder of a Newberry fellowship, he is now on leave of absence from his university to write a book on frontier art before the Civil War. Among others who contribute to the book review section are Dr. Merrill G. Burlingame of the department of history in Montana State College at Bozeman, author of *The Montana Frontier*; and Dr. R. Gerald McMurtry, director of the department of Lincolniana in Lincoln Memorial University at Harrogate, Tennessee.



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