

Some New Books in Review

Milwaukee: The History of a City. By BAYRD STILL. (Madison, The State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1948. xvi, 638 p. Illustrations. \$6.00.)

Some years ago Carl Becker, praising Turner's use of historical data, commented on the difficulty of "getting the confounded thing to move." The difficulty was seldom more apparent than in this monumental study of Wisconsin's chief metropolis. Its 568 pages of text are so laden with names that at times they read more like a city directory than like history: page 92, for instance, names seventeen persons and twenty places, and it would be hard to find any successive ten pages that average less than a dozen proper names per page. The effect may be endearing to devotees of Milwaukee minutiae, but it is discouraging to a busy reader seeking to understand "the way of life that won Milwaukee fame," to quote the book's final phrase.

And that is a pity, for Bayrd Still has brought together an enormous amount of information about a city whose "chief claim to distinction lay less in the political philosophy of its people than in their practical and honestly managed solutions to the problems of urban living." Mr. Still notes "the scarcity of monographic studies" in the local field, but it seems unfortunate that (if one may hazard a guess) the exigencies of Wisconsin's Centennial program did not allow time for more adequate assimilation of the raw materials with which he had to work.

The study is focused quite closely on the city itself. Outside forces affecting the city are considered altogether in terms of Milwaukee's response to their impact, and the vast agricultural area on which the city's growth so largely depended is dismissed as "the hinterland," with little attempt to indicate its character. Minnesota readers will be interested in the account of Byron Kilbourne's railroad manipulations, because of the part he played in Minnesota railroad history. The flow of wheat that for several years made Milwaukee the world's largest primary wheat market was of course largely from Minnesota, though the fact is left entirely to inference.

What is really valuable here, if one has the patience to dig through the heavy layers of names and figures, is the peculiarly American picture of

a heterogeneous lot of people fumbling their way, through nationalistic and economic divisions, to a distinctive and liberating pattern of community life. The rich cultural life of Milwaukee's German settlement is especially well analyzed, and so are the successive stages by which that culture ceased to be distinctively German and became an integral part of the American community. Comparable developments of Polish, Czech, and other national groups are shown in more limited detail, as becomes their somewhat minor contributions. Perhaps the highest value of the book lies in the area where history merges with sociology—in the painstaking report of how the meeting of community needs has grown from individual effort, through voluntary group activity, to established governmental services. So important is that story that one is tempted to hope Mr. Still, relieved of Centennial pressures, may draw together those strains of his work in a book sufficiently brief and readable to reach the increasing numbers of people who are concerned with the same living problems in communities of every size.

MARGARET SNYDER

Pursuit of the Horizon: A Life of George Catlin, Painter and Recorder of the American Indian. By LOYD HABERLY. (New York, The Macmillan Company, 1948. xiii, 239 p. Illustrations. \$5.00.)

George Catlin's place in the history of American art has never been defined. In the rare occurrences of his name in published histories he appears as a somewhat nebulous, somewhat mysterious figure. This situation is some cause for wonder, for there are few other American artists whose lives offer so rich an opportunity to the biographer. Far from being the conventional record of an artist's search for expression and recognition within the confines of the academies, exhibitions, and sales rooms, Catlin's life story would seem an imaginative tour de force, if we did not know it to be true. He was a painter whose artistic determinations were guided by a vast and taxing inspiration. Deeply moved and horrified by the disappearance of the aboriginal culture of the American Indian, Catlin set out to make a pictorial record of that culture before it vanished forever. The social historian and the anthropologist have long been aware of the value of his work, but the recognition of his contribution to our native art is long overdue. *Pursuit of the Horizon* will undoubtedly inspire a wide if belated interest in the artist's work.

To call this book a popular biography is not to derogate its importance in the least. Mr. Haberly has concentrated most of his attention on Catlin's fabulous life story, and has given us an account which is as colorful and impassioned as the subject itself. To treat Catlin as a man or as an artist in any other way would only place a serious limitation on our appreciation of his work. He was a thoroughgoing romantic, far more interested in an emotional understanding of his experiences than in scientifically objective description. The depth of his feeling and determination is well projected throughout the book, and at its end the reader is inclined to agree with the author that here was an extraordinary man "who admitted no impossibles, who made a high human purpose his only pastor, and who served his own talents in his own independent way."

The author's second claim for Catlin—that he was one of our great native painters—Mr. Haberly does not sustain as well. The claim is probably true, but unfortunately the evidence does not appear as fully as it might. Furthermore, the claim seems to be repeatedly compromised by an attitude on the part of the author which is expressed in the quotation above. It would seem apparent on the basis of this attitude that Catlin's real passion was not painting, but the "high human purpose" of the Indian cause, and that his pictures were but the means to that end. The author has made a better point of Catlin as a reformer and a humanitarian than as an artist.

In the accumulation of many brief references scattered throughout the text we are told that Catlin's style was formed by the circumstances under which he worked. We are told that his sense of the urgency of his task drove him into the use of a kind of pictorial shorthand which seized the essence of a subject in a few linear suggestions, and that it was the intensity of his feeling which produced his caricaturistic exaggerations of form and symbolic washes of color. Mr. Haberly repeatedly and correctly emphasizes the uncompromising realism with which Catlin studied and rendered his subjects. It is this sense of reality, in combination with Catlin's essentially romantic point of view, which makes his work so full of interest for the student of art.

Mr. Haberly has devoted two chapters at the end of his book to a list of the places in which Catlin's work is now stored and to an acknowledgment of the sources of information from which he received material. It is unfortunate that room could not have been made for a specific consideration of Catlin the artist. It would have been worth the trouble to

have enlarged on the meaning of such phrases as "skilled and rapid style," "superb draughtsmanship," and "strong rhythmic composition," which occur throughout the book. There are times when this kind of generalizing is difficult to understand. Witness: "Formalizing, Catlin kept native forms; and without blocked-in brutality or uncouthness of color created effects of tremendous naked inhuman grandeur and remote serene wildness."

Seventeen of Catlin's paintings are reproduced in the book. Although the number is larger by at least a dozen than that contained in any earlier published collection, it still seems small when one considers that there are extant more than a thousand examples of Catlin's work. Author and publisher cannot, of course, be held to account for this shortcoming of the book. But since it fails to give the reader an opportunity to check the author's words against the artist's work, one must feel that what we need to know about George Catlin the artist is the subject for another and quite different book.

NORMAN A. GESKE

Midwest Heritage. By JOHN DRURY. (New York, A. A. Wyn, Inc., 1948. 176 p. Illustrations. \$5.00.)

What Minnesota, in the opinion of John Drury, contributes to the *Midwest Heritage* is defined in the opening chapter of this regional study. There, under the caption "On 'The Father of Waters,'" the writer traces the Mississippi northward from St. Louis to Lake Itasca. He touches lightly, and not always with accuracy, on some Minnesota miscellany, mentioning Lake Pepin and its scenic attractions, the St. Croix and its log drives, the Twin Cities, Indian missions, and the discovery of the Mississippi's source. Schoolcraft and Hennepin are the only explorers of the North to be noted, and Mr. Drury, falling into a veritable nest of errors, reports that the wandering friar "never got beyond the Falls of Saint Anthony when he claimed to have reached the headwaters of the Mississippi in 1678."

It is appropriate that Mr. Drury should make the Mississippi his point of departure, for certainly the Great River, more than any other factor, binds the Midwest together into a geographic and economic unit. The opening section is followed by others dealing with cities, states, and areas that come within the region's confines. One deals in words and pictures with Chicago as a "Midland Metropolis"; another tells of "Cities

of the Lakes," including Duluth; the "Land of Lincoln" and the "National Road" receive separate treatment; and the "Old French Towns" of the Great Lakes country and the Mississippi Valley are described.

Mr. Drury illustrates his book "with hundreds of old engravings." Had he given the sources from which he drew them, these pictures would have been a genuine contribution to the Midwest's history, as well as to its heritage. Where, for example, did Mr. Drury discover his amusing print of Norman Wiard's steam iceboat? More commonplace are his views of St. Paul, the upper Mississippi bluffs, Minnehaha Falls, and Duluth. As a pictorial record of certain phases of their background, this volume will be welcomed and enjoyed by Midwest readers and collectors.

BERTHA L. HEILBRON

The God-Seeker. By SINCLAIR LEWIS. (New York, Random House, 1949. 422 p. \$3.50.)

Few people care more about Minnesota than does Sinclair Lewis. His affection for the region shows in almost every book he has written, but he never spares the rod. If he sees hypocrisy, or false piety, or intolerance, or pretension, he mocks and flays those things. *The God-Seeker* is like no other historical novel because it is primarily Mr. Lewis' view of the Minnesota of a hundred years ago. He is not lost in the past. He is conspicuous in it, and it makes for a novel of character, instead of one of background or wildly fictionized historical events.

This will not be his most popular book. But that need be of little concern to him, for he is as nearly an immortal American novelist as any writer could hope to be. The book is not the kind of historical novel which will please readers who want glamorous memoirs. It is the story of Aaron Gadd, with his lusts, and his hours of inspiration, and regret, and shame. It is the story of a man's preoccupation with his body and his soul. Mr. Lewis says, as well as anyone has said it, that though the setting of lives changes, human nature is fairly constant.

The background, the places, and the events are accurate. For many years Sinclair Lewis has been a student of Minnesota history, a collector of old maps of the territory, as well as of books with pictures of pioneers and the houses in which they lived. The settlements on the Mississippi, the Chapel of St. Paul, the breakfast (and all other meals) at Wherryman's are described as only a patron and student of history could picture them. Since Mr. Lewis can not possibly change or abandon his own style,

the book sometimes reads surprisingly. It is a little like Shakespeare in modern dress.

The God-Seeker is one of the Lewis novels which shows the tenderness which Mr. Lewis will never allow to become sentimentality. It is not the full story of Minnesota of a hundred years ago, but it is genuinely a part of Minnesota's history. Students will be greatly benefited by the existence of this book, which may have a more permanent place than many other Lewis novels. It always will be collateral reading for anyone who explores Minnesota history. The student will read Folwell and then turn to Lewis for the story values of Minnesota in 1848 and for an account of the personal and moral struggles which must have gone on. These Sinclair Lewis brings to life in his tale of a "God-Seeker."

MARGARET CULKIN BANNING

Pharmacy Forward: Being Selections, Mostly Not Published Before, from the Diary, Autobiography, Speeches, & Reports, Significant of a Lifetime Effort in the Profession of Pharmacy. By FREDERICK J. WULLING. (La Crosse, Wisconsin, Emerson G. Wulling, Sumac Press, 1948. 123 p. Illustrations. \$3.00.)

In the ordinary course of events pharmacy and pharmacology certainly would have been taught at the University of Minnesota as that institution gradually developed; but that is not to say that the present college of pharmacy could have become what it is today without Dr. Frederick J. Wulling. The history of that college is the natural history of Dr. Wulling. At first alone, then with others, he fought for it fiercely and indomitably against formidable hostility, and the compass of his victory is reflected today in the respect and admiration universally accorded the uncompromising standards of the college in the building which bears his name.

To workers in the medical sciences, Dr. Wulling's achievements have always been impressive. He was a nationally recognized educator, a resolute protagonist of high standards in both licensure and practice, and an administrator of uncommon proficiency. Like Leonard Rowntree and Hugh Cabot, he stimulated research rather than carried it out himself; but his ten-year tenure as trustee of the *United States Pharmacopoeia*—perhaps the greatest honor that can be conferred in the field of pharmaceutical research—is notable evidence of his service in the cause of research.

Dr. Wulling went to the University of Minnesota in 1892 to found the college of pharmacy authorized by the legislature in 1891. Although he was then only twenty-six years old, his brilliant record in pharmacy and other sciences had attracted much attention, including that of Cyrus Northrop, and he had already completed the scientific *Wanderjahre* in Europe. Typical of his powerful, restless, audacious personality is the fact that when he found that the dean of the newly organized college of medicine and surgery was openly hostile to him and his plans, he boldly carried the fight to that well-entrenched university don, remarking laconically: "I am here to stay." Typical of his erudition is the fact that when the professor of medical chemistry sourly objected that he was "only a pharmacist," Dr. Wulling proceeded to show him convincingly that although he did not consider himself a chemist, he knew much more about medical chemistry than the occupant of that chair himself, and easily could have taken his place. Typical of the professional esteem he enjoyed, even as a man not yet thirty, is the fact that when the renowned William Osler came out to Minneapolis in 1892 to dedicate the new medical school, Dr. Wulling was the only man in the university faculty whom the Johns Hopkins internist knew.

This book is a selection of some of Dr. Wulling's writings, edited and handsomely published by his son, Emerson G. Wulling, in an edition of five hundred copies. The reader will be grateful to Mr. Wulling for the insight with which he chose the excerpts presented in the volume; enough of the life and spirit of an eminent man is set forth to provoke the hope that his entire autobiography, soon to be given to the University of Minnesota, likewise may be issued with such competence and care.

JAMES ECKMAN

You Are the Government: A Handbook for Minnesota Citizens. Compiled by the LEAGUE OF WOMEN VOTERS OF SAINT PAUL. (St. Paul, 1949. 96 p. Illustrations. \$.25.)

This booklet is an excellent guide for Minnesotans intent on finding their way through the maze of state and local government. It begins with a discussion of the right to vote and of political parties as the means by which the citizen can establish and influence his government. It proceeds to deal with the organization of the state government, and next discusses local government in considerable detail. The political structures of Duluth, Minneapolis, St. Paul, St. Cloud, Albert Lea, and Bemidji are

elaborated upon to demonstrate different types of municipal government. The devotion of so much space to this subject seems justified on the grounds that the citizen can best experience the excitement and challenge of democracy by political activity in his home territory. An outline of proposed changes in the Minnesota Constitution follows, and the booklet ends with very sketchy descriptions of the federal government and the United Nations, and some advice on what to do "Between Elections."

Instead of giving a necessarily inadequate outline of the federal government and the United Nations, the space might have been used better for some remarks on the citizen's influence upon these two institutions. Naturally in these few pages the compilers had to limit themselves to descriptions of purely formal organization. It is their hope, however, that the reader, through the presentation of the framework of government, may be stimulated to fill in the living substance by active participation in the political process in his community.

WERNER LEVI

The Minnesota Book of Days. By ROY SWANSON. (St. Paul, 1949. 133 p. Illustrations. \$2.50.)

When was the treaty of Traverse des Sioux signed? Who was Jacob Falstrom? What is Laskiainin Day? These and hundreds of other questions about persons and events connected with Minnesota and its history are answered in the *Minnesota Book of Days*. This useful and timely publication is a calendar of birthdays and of dates of all kinds of events arranged according to the day of the month on which they occurred. It is not a chronology and it cannot be consulted for the happenings of a given year. Under a single day, such as September 30, there may be events of half a dozen different years covering the span of a century.

For all except the calendar-maker or the curious reader, this hodgepodge of events would be useless without a good index. The compiler has not only provided an adequate index, but he has enlarged the usefulness of the book by including biographical sketches and brief explanations with many entries. One may find, for example, a summary of the St. Paul Winter Carnivals under the date of the opening of the first one, a description of the Minnesota state flag under the date of its adoption, and an enumeration of the various dates on which Thanksgiving Day has been observed under December 26.

This *Book of Days* will be useful to Minnesota librarians, teachers, and others who need quick and concise answers to questions about dates in Minnesota history. The author has listed none of his sources, but he has included a number of quotations from newspapers and he occasionally refers to Dr. Folwell's history of the state. Readers of *Minnesota History* will recognize many of the illustrations.

LOIS M. FAWCETT

Pioneer Railroad: The Story of the Chicago and North Western System.

By ROBERT J. CASEY and W. A. S. DOUGLAS. (New York, Whittlesey House, 1948. 334 p. Illustrations. \$4.00.)

It is fitting that the Chicago and North Western system should have a history written after a century of service. *Pioneer Railroad* tells the story of this colorful enterprise from the days of William B. Ogden to the streamlined "400's." We see the North Western transformed from a local Illinois road to a giant company operating in nine states. It forms a part of the nation's heaviest transcontinental route, and it is the only major American railroad having left-hand operation.

The authors succeed in giving a general picture of the large trunk line and its component companies. There is a chapter on the Omaha road, and a section concerning the Northwest Territory. Interesting side-lights, such as accounts of the blizzard of 1888, of heroes and heroines of the rail, and of travel conditions of yesteryear enliven the volume. It is amusing to read of the railroad's part in locating the capital of South Dakota and to learn of the trials involved in transporting Calvin Coolidge safely to the Black Hills for a vacation. Stories such as these show originality in picking up novel and bizarre incidents associated with American railway history. They lend spice and color to any book, and are all too seldom mentioned in the standard railroad works.

Many of the generalizations, however, are not well founded. From the start the authors ascribe quotations to Ogden which apparently are fabricated—an achievement perfectly good in a novel, but quite out of place in a factual volume. The story seems to be hastily written, or at any rate it does not delve deeply enough into the company's records to get an adequate over-all picture. Chicago is one of the nation's richest centers for source material on railroading, but there is little evidence that the authors have fully availed themselves of this material.

For the reader who wants a general story of the North Western there is much to learn from this book. But for those who seek accuracy, balance, and perspective, *Pioneer Railroad* is disappointing. The volume has an index, several maps, and numerous illustrations. Students of rail history will appreciate the list of dates of construction of all the roads now a part of the Chicago and North Western featured in the appendix.

FRANK P. DONOVAN, JR.

Joseph Benson Foraker: An Uncompromising Republican (The Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society, *Ohio Governors Series*, vol. 1). By EVERETT WALTERS. (Columbus, The Ohio History Press, 1948. xiii, 315 p. Portrait. \$3.50.)

The subject of this biography was a man who in his day was an important figure in state and national politics. Upon several occasions Joseph B. Foraker was seriously mentioned as a possible Republican presidential nominee, but each time he had to step aside for another, often a fellow Ohioan. He served two terms as governor of Ohio and for forty years was a key figure in the Ohio Republican machine, which had great influence in national affairs. During two Senatorial terms, Foraker supported the imperialistic policies of McKinley and Roosevelt. He made a reputation as a constitutional lawyer and drafted the Foraker Act establishing a government for Puerto Rico.

The author of this biography has used published and unpublished materials, including the important private collection of Murat Halstead Papers. His careful examination of the Standard Oil letters enables him to show Foraker's connection with big business and explains his sudden departure from the political scene. Foraker best typifies the spirit of the post-Civil War period. He was an uncompromising Republican whose thinking seldom advanced beyond the "bloody shirt" era and who in his steadfast allegiance to nineteenth-century laissez-faire principles failed to appreciate the rising progressivism of the twentieth century. The author has written a careful, impartial biography which gives an illuminating picture of the working of the Ohio Republican machine during this period. The state historical society should be congratulated on publishing this study.

GEORGE B. ENGBERG

The Will to Succeed: Stories of Swedish Pioneers. (Stockholm, Sweden, Bonniers, 1948. 265 p. \$2.75.)

This selection of thirty essays is from two thousand originally submitted in a contest sponsored by the Swedish American Line as part of the Swedish Pioneer Centennial of 1948. The winning essay, "Leather Hinges," is by a Minnesotan who writes in an appealing way about the life of her pioneer great-grandmother on the shores of Union Lake in Polk County. Minnesota is represented also by essays about the Vasa settlement and Governor John A. Johnson.

The rest of the stories deal with the Swedish pioneers across the continent—in Maine, in the Middle West, in Texas, on the Pacific coast, and in Alaska. Some of the subjects are names that everyone knows, like John Ericsson and Carl Sandburg; others, less known, deserve to be better known, such as the immigrant who became a Mormon bishop and managed a Utah city and three wives so successfully. It is evident throughout that the contestants were neither trained historians nor practiced journalists. They seem to have been prompted to take pen in hand by an impelling pride in the regions and the heroes of their accounts. The important thing is that two thousand narratives were gathered. Much of the material collected is of real value, which leads the editor, Adolph B. Benson, to say that the venture was "historically worth its cost."

The book is unusual in having been manufactured in Sweden. This departure is not entirely happy, however; the proofreading is inadequate, the printing style is unfamiliar, and rules of English syllabication are often disregarded.

ROY SWANSON

The Historical Scene

"THE SERIOUS LITERATURE of the Midwest for the last seventy-five years has been a literature of protest," in the opinion of John T. Flanagan, who contributes a stimulating article on "Literary Protest in the Midwest" to the spring number of the *Southwest Review*. Professor Flanagan points out that "Midwest novelists, in particular, have devoted their talents to reviling the society of their region," concentrating "on what they termed insularity, provincialism, materialism, insensitivity to the arts, frustration, and the cramping effects of an unsympathetic environment." Among the novelists whose works are examined in some detail are two Minnesotans — O. E. Rölvaag and Sinclair Lewis.

The publication of the newest *Guide to the Records in the National Archives* (1948. 684 p.) brings closer to scholars than ever before the vast resources of the nation's research mecca. Eight hundred thousand cubic feet of records — papers, maps, motion picture files, pictures, and sound recording units — are broken down into record groups and arranged in the guide in numerical order. Preceding each description of a record group is a brief administrative history of the agency or agencies that created the records; and many of the descriptions close with bibliographies of the most pertinent published materials. The possible objections to a numerical listing are met by including a full analytical index and a table of contents listing the record groups. To students of local history, this guide can well be an introduction to the wide variety of records in the archives. Such a Baedeker, supplemented by the expert guidance that members of the archives staff give to searchers who go to Washington, is an encouragement to a more extensive use of this great storehouse of records.

LUCILE KANE

Three papers on "The Teaching of State History in the Colleges and Universities," read before a joint session of the American Historical Association and the American Association for State and Local History in Washington on December 29, 1948, are published in the February number of *American Heritage*. They are "State's Rites" by John A. Munroe, "Problems and Promises of a Course in State History" by Whitfield J. Bell, Jr., and "Unique Elements in State History" by R. P. McCormick.

The New York State Historical Association will conduct the second of its annual Seminars on American Culture from July 5 to 15. The 1949 sessions will be held in the society's museum at Cooperstown, New York. There will be courses and lectures on such subjects as the "Creative Uses of History," American folklore and folk art, "History in the Library," the "Restoration and Use of Historic Buildings," the "Problems of History Museum Interpretation," as well as on the "Writing of Local History."

During the past two years some important Minnesota manuscripts have been added to the Cornell University Collection of Regional History, according to the curator's *Third and Fourth Annual Reports*, issued in December, 1948. The Reuben E. Robie Papers, for example, the *Reports* reveal, include a series of letters and reports for the years from 1890 to 1901 from William Thomas of Mankato. They contain "detailed information on the mortgage business and local conditions," and those for 1894 refer to the "Populist movement and the using of foreclosures as a weapon against it." Some material on land investments in Minnesota is to be found in the Rutherford Collection of deeds, accounts, and letters for the period from 1819 to 1897.

The first of two articles by Harold C. Knox dealing with "Consul Taylor of Red River" appears in the March number of the *Beaver*. James Wickes Taylor's adventures during the Riel rebellion of 1869-70 are featured in the opening narrative, which gives a detailed account of the St. Paulite's appointment in December, 1869, "as a secret service agent at Fort Garry to report on the Red River insurrection." His mission, of course, was directed toward annexation—one of Taylor's fond dreams. Reports and letters, official and otherwise, which the agent sent across the border from Winnipeg form the basis for Mr. Knox's article, and are quoted extensively. They picture in a new and revealing light the men and events of the Canadian rebellion. All are among the Taylor Papers, covering the period from 1859 to 1893 and consisting of some seventeen hundred items, owned by the Minnesota Historical Society. That "no complete history of the West can be written without reference" to this collection is the opinion of Mr. Knox. In the same issue of the *Beaver* is a significant article by R. Glover on "York Boats." It is described as "the most complete article yet published on these celebrated craft of the northern waterways."

Localized largely in the "fertile Red River Valley, common to Minnesota and Dakota Territory in the United States and to Manitoba in the Dominion," is Donald F. Warner's study of "The Farmers' Alliance and the Farmers' Union: An American-Canadian Parallelism," which appears in the January number of *Agricultural History*. By the 1880's, the writer points out, the valley "was the setting for the Farmers' Union in Canada; and one of the citadels of the Farmers' Alliance in the United States"; an examination of that area reveals the "striking similarities of origin, purpose, and activity" in the two organizations. Both, writes Professor Warner, "sprouted from the fertile soil of agrarian discontent, and the specific grievances which motivated their activities were identical"; both used "political action and pressure-group techniques"; each achieved "a dominant position in its section, and each promptly spoiled its chances for immediate and major success by foolish errors of inexperience." The author emphasizes the fact that the "Union and the Alliance were independent and unconnected," thus illustrating the fact that "Canadian history and American history are often closely interwoven, and that the threads in their pattern are continental and not national." Minnesotans who have followed the program of the Minnesota Historical Society's Forest Products History Foundation will be interested in an article, in the same issue of *Agricultural History*, on "The Tree Farm Movement: Its Origin and Development." The author, Paul F. Sharp, here summarizes the results of a research project conducted under the sponsorship of the foundation.

The Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad has issued a very informative booklet by R. C. Overton entitled *Milepost 100* (1949. 64 p.). It tells the story of the development of the Burlington Lines from 1849 to 1949. The publication gives a clear picture of the "Q" in an abridged form, discussing early construction, expansion, and present-day operation. Mention is made of the leading figures in the road's history — men like James F. Joy, John Murray Forbes, and Charles E. Perkins. The author also touches upon the colonization work of the system, technological improvements in recent years, and the relationship of the railroad to the community. Many illustrations are scattered throughout the text and several maps help the reader to trace the growth of the company. The booklet is really a summary of Dr. Overton's one-volume general history of the Burlington, which will appear next year. Judging from

Milepost 100, the forthcoming book will be a valuable contribution to the field of railroad and economic history. FRANK P. DONOVAN, JR.

The oft-repeated claim that *Dixie* was written in St. Paul at the home of the composer's brother, Judge Lafayette Emmett, is denied by Hans Nathan in a detailed and scholarly study of the song published in the *Musical Quarterly* for January. "Except for a single wholly uncorroborated statement by [Dan] Emmett shortly before his death to the effect that *Dixie* had been composed years before he came to New York, there is no evidence whatsoever for the song's origin in Minnesota alleged by a persistent rumor," writes Mr. Nathan. He shows that the song was performed for the first time on April 4, 1859, by Bryant's Minstrels, a New York company that Daniel Decatur Emmett joined in the fall of 1858. Mr. Nathan believes that the style of *Dixie* "connects it closely with the production for the Bryants and with no songs of a previous period." He relates that "when Emmett was in his eighties, that is, about forty years after the first performance of *Dixie*, he made a number of picturesque but unreliable and even conflicting statements on how he came to write the song." Mr. Nathan, however, contends that an earlier statement made by Emmett is likely to be authentic. It was written for the *New York Clipper*, a trade paper for show people, and was published in its issue for April 6, 1872. There Emmett specifically "said that *Dixie* was composed in New York 'on one rainy Sunday in Elm Street, between Broome and Spring streets, No. 197, Room No. 1.'"

Based upon the writings of John S. Robb is John Francis McDermott's documentary study, "Gold Fever: The Letters of 'Solitaire,' Gold-rush Correspondent of '49," the first installment of which appears in the January *Bulletin* of the Missouri Historical Society. That Robb's career as a St. Louis journalist was at one point identified with the Minnesota country is brought out in Mr. McDermott's introduction to the California letters. Robb went north to Fort Snelling in the early summer of 1848, spent a week or more as the guest of Captain Seth Eastman, and joined the artist, Henry Lewis, for the trip downstream. His Minnesota visit, Robb described in half a dozen letters published in the *Weekly Reveille* of St. Louis, according to Mr. McDermott.

The Swedish Pioneer Centennial Association, which last year supervised an important Midwest celebration, is continuing its activities as a historical society. From its headquarters in Chicago it is conducting

a membership campaign, issuing a news letter, and planning a series of more pretentious publications. That its first publication project is under way is announced in its March *Newsletter*. It is Professor O. Fritiof Ander's "comprehensive bibliography covering both published and other material on the Swedish element in this country."

The Man Who Knew Trees: The Autobiography of James W. Girard has been published by the Forest Products History Foundation of the Minnesota Historical Society as number 4 of its *Publications* (1949. 35 p.). The booklet presents the colorful story of a man who has been described as a "Forest Service institution" and "check cruiser of the universe." Girard launched upon his life's work at the age of fifteen, when he was first employed to fall and buck, load, haul, and scale timber for stave camps and small sawmills near his home in Tennessee. After cruising timber for a few years in the wooded hills of his native state, Girard migrated to the West, where he soon began a distinguished career with the United States Forest Service. From the rank of forest guard, Girard rose to the position of assistant director of the nation-wide forest survey. His duties with the Forest Service and later with the War Production Board took him from Alaska to the Caribbean and from the Atlantic seaboard to the timbered slopes of the Pacific Northwest. Whether he was scaling logs and marking timber in Idaho or surveying the forest resources of the Dominican Republic, Girard's courage and integrity inspired confidence and respect, and his keen sense of humor won him a host of friends. His *Autobiography* may be purchased from the Forest Products History Foundation for fifty cents. ANNE WARBURTON

"Banvard's Mississippi Panorama Pamphlets" are discussed by John Francis McDermott in the *Papers* of the Bibliographical Society of America for the first quarter of 1949. "By searching a number of libraries and particularly by the generous loan of a collection preserved by Miss Edith Banvard, youngest daughter of the artist," writes Mr. McDermott, "I have been able to piece together a bibliographical account of the Mississippi panorama." The writer fails to note, however, that after Miss Banvard's death, in February, 1948, much of the Banvard material she had preserved was added to the Minnesota Historical Society's collection. Of the *Description* published to accompany Banvard's moving picture and listed by Mr. McDermott, the society has three; in addition it has one published in Boston in 1847 that is not mentioned in Mr. Mc

Dermott's article. The writer discusses also various editions of Banvard's *Adventures of an Artist*. He states that this booklet's first "independent issue as a pamphlet" took place in 1849; the society, however, has in its library a London edition of 1848.

The inscription on the Kensington stone is described as a "Message to Posterity" in the Thanksgiving, 1948, number of *News from Home*, a publication of the Home Insurance Company of New York. Much of the article is devoted to a review of Mr. Hjalmar R. Holand's study of the stone and to his efforts to prove it authentic. A map showing a possible route from Hudson Bay to Kensington and several appropriate photographs illustrate the article.

Some information about Catholic education in Minnesota is to be found in a volume on the *Christian Brothers in the United States, 1848-1948: A Century of Catholic Education* by Brother Angelus Gabriel (New York, 1948). A brief statement about parochial schools opened in St. Paul and Minneapolis from 1851 to 1889 appears in a section on elementary education, and there are accounts of high schools conducted under the auspices of the brothers in Minneapolis, St. Paul, Duluth, and Winona.

In the *Journal of Geography* for January, Loyal Durand, Jr., defines as "The American Dairy Region" an area extending "from the Atlantic Coast in New England to its dry-land western border in the Red River Valley of western Minnesota." Mr. Durand's article contains much information of interest for the student of agriculture in Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Students of medical history will welcome a volume by A. C. Meyer on the *Earlier Years of the Drug and Allied Trades in the Mississippi Valley*, which has been privately printed by the author (St. Louis, 1948. 159 p.). Although the book deals almost entirely with the St. Louis drug trade, and particularly with Mr. Meyer's own firm, it contains occasional references to business associates in other localities, including St. Paul. Of special interest are the illustrations, many of which show objects reminiscent of the early drug business.

Minnesota's "Golden Gophers" figure frequently in the pages of Robert L. Burnes's *50 Golden Years of Sports* (1948. 200, xxiv p.), which has been published by the Rawlings Manufacturing Company of St.

Louis to commemorate its "50 Golden Years of Service to athletic progress." Since the treatment is chronological, the largest number of Minnesota names appear in the sections dealing with the years from 1936 to 1941, when Bernie Bierman's teams were most consistently victorious.

NEWS FROM THE STATES

An address presented by President James L. Morrill of the University of Minnesota on May 20, 1948, in Minneapolis before a meeting of the Newcomen Society of England has been published by that organization in an attractive booklet (1948. 28 p.). Under the title *Taconite! Sleeping Giant of the Mesabi*, Dr. Morrill reviews the dramatic story of Minnesota's iron resources. "The story of Man's adaptation to the environment of the Minnesota range country, with cycles of progress and regression, tensions and conflicts, constitutes a drama of epic import," he writes. "Here is a vast region in which for unnumbered centuries only the simple Indian roamed. Then came the white man to eke out a precarious existence, unaware for decades that beneath the ground on which he walked there were riches far exceeding the wealth of kings." The discovery and exploitation of that wealth is merely mentioned by the writer, who relates that after it apparently was exhausted on the Mesabi, "there were once more giant stirrings." The first attempt to process the taconite that caused these stirrings, Dr. Morrill points out, was made some thirty years ago. Now, he concludes, "Taconite, the new giant of the Mesabi, has arisen! He stands ready to stride forward!"

Two members of the faculty of the St. Cloud State Teachers College have collaborated on a well-planned textbook about *Minnesota: Its Geography, History, and Government* (Boston, 1948. 164 p.). Evidently intended for use in the upper grades, the text includes sections on three periods of state history, on transportation, and industries, as well as on geography and government. The Minnesota Indians, exploration, and early settlement are treated in a chapter on "Early History"; a chapter on "The Territory and State of Minnesota" covers political organization, Indian treaties, the Sioux and Civil wars, and the beginnings of the public school system; and a section on "Recent History" deals with labor organizations, Minnesota in the First and Second World wars, "Educational Progress," and the state's contributions to the arts and sciences. Hundreds of maps and illustrations add to the interest and value of this

textbook. Many of the pictures, incidentally, are drawn from the collection of the Minnesota Historical Society.

Collected in northern Minnesota — at Ely, Tower, Virginia, Hibbing, Chisholm, Duluth — where Finnish singers still reside, are the "Ballads of the Knife-Men" that form the subject of Marjorie Edgar's article in *Western Folklore* for January. Among the Finnish pioneers who settled in Minnesota's border lake country, writes Miss Edgar, "the songs most commonly sung were the ballads, chiefly from northwest Finland, about the 'knife-men.'" She goes on to explain that the knife of these songs is "the large steel *puukko*, with its birch handle and curved sheath, which the woodsmen, and our non-Finnish hunters also, wear hanging from their belts. It is used in woods work, as it was in Finland, and the old bullies of the ballads used it for a fighting weapon." Several examples of these songs are quoted in translations made by the writer.

Gleaned from the *Minnesota Pioneer* and other St. Paul newspapers of 1849, 1850, and 1853 are letters and articles about "Sioux Indian Customs" reprinted in the *Minnesota Archaeologist* for October, 1948. All these contemporary reports were written by two Minnesota missionaries, Dr. Thomas S. Williamson and Stephen R. Riggs. An introduction telling something about their backgrounds and their activities among the Indians is provided by Willoughby M. Babcock.

Two volumes of typewritten records that will be of value not only to genealogists, but to those working in certain fields of local history, have been compiled by the genealogical committee of records of the Minnesota Daughters of the American Revolution. Mrs. Lester J. Eck is chairman of the committee. One volume contains transcripts of "Vital and Church Records" of Presbyterian, Baptist, and Congregational churches at St. Cloud and Clearwater. The second book consists of "Miscellaneous Records" drawn from family Bibles; a list of "Charter Members of the First Presbyterian Church Organized in Traverse des Sioux" in November, 1853; transcripts of "Inscriptions from Green Lawn Cemetery, Traverse des Sioux," some of which date from the 1850's; and "Marriage Records of Blue Earth County" for the 1870's. Of special interest are some records of the Hutchinson family, whose members were widely known in the entertainment world (p. 46-49). Copies of both volumes have been added to the genealogical collection of the Minnesota Historical Society.

"The Young Hans Mattson" as revealed in a letter written from Red Wing in the fall of 1859 is the subject of an article by Marshall W. S. Swan published in the *Bulletin* of the America Swedish Institute of Minneapolis for March. Translated in full is Mattson's letter, which is owned by the American Swedish Historical Foundation of Philadelphia. In it the Minnesota pioneer reports to relatives in Sweden. "I am living in the city of Red Wing as a lawyer, having passed my examinations a year ago," he writes, and then goes on to relate that "Next week we are to have election day. The American people can choose their leaders and I have been nominated for a post called County Auditor. . . . If I am elected to this office (which I am certain to be), my salary will be 3,000 rix-dollars a year besides which I keep my place as legal advisor to our circuit court."

Mrs. Josephine Lutz Rollins' water colors of historic Minnesota buildings, which will be displayed by the Minnesota Historical Society in September and October, are described by Sally Luther in the *Minneapolis Star* for February 9. The painting of these attractive records of landmarks in Minnesota's history has been made possible through a grant to the Stillwater artist by the graduate school of the University of Minnesota. Three of Mrs. Rollins' pictures are reproduced in the *Star*.

Some of the important paintings that "depict Minnesota's past" are reproduced in full color as a Centennial feature in the *Minneapolis Sunday Tribune* for February 27. Three of the canvases are from the collection of the Minnesota Historical Society. They are Frank B. Mayer's painting of the treaty of Traverse des Sioux, Henry Lewis' view of St. Paul in 1848, and Ferdinand Prichardt's representation of the Falls of St. Anthony in 1857. Included also is Seth Eastman's painting of old Fort Snelling, the original of which is owned by the Minneapolis Institute of Arts.

The *Conservation Volunteer* for January-February is a Centennial number, which presents as its leading article a review by Alfred L. Nelson of "A Centennial of Natural Resources" in Minnesota. Elizabeth Bachmann contributes the story of the "Glamorous 'Gopher,'" tracing the origin of the state's nickname to a cartoon of 1857. "A Territory Is Born" is the title of an article by Harold Searls, director of pageantry for the Centennial. His sketch appears on the back cover of the issue.

A chapter is added to the state's recorded economic history in a booklet on *One Hundred Years of Credit Union Progress* published recently by the Minnesota League of Credit Unions (1948. 24 p.). Although the story of Minnesota's credit unions can be traced back only to 1923, according to this booklet they "grew out of, and at the same time grew into, a national and international movement" that began in 1848.

The Association of American Railroads has published a four-page leaflet in which is reviewed in brief outline the story of *Minnesota's Railroads: Their Part in the Development of the State*. From the September day in 1861 when the "William Crooks" was unloaded from a steamboat at the St. Paul levee to the appearance of Diesel engines and streamlined trains, the highlights of the state's rail record are revealed. Here are to be found accounts of the building of the first line between St. Paul and St. Anthony and its opening on June 28, 1862, of the many short lines that extended southward and then westward from St. Paul, of the roads that grew out of the development of iron mining in the Arrowhead region, and of the routes that reached out to the Pacific.

The *Engineers' Club of Minnesota 1948-49 Roster* (229 p.) includes a "Chronological Review" of the history of the organization. From May, 1883, when the group was organized and adopted a constitution, to 1947, the principal events of each year are reviewed in brief outline by the club's historian, E. S. Macgowan.

To the ever-growing list of children's books that exploit frontier back-grounds, A. T. Almer has added a slight volume entitled *North to St. Paul: Adventures of a Boy and a Girl in the Early Days in Minnesota* (Rock Island, Augustana Book Concern, 1948. 80 p.). The story deals with the children of a Scandinavian settler who built a cabin near St. Paul in 1854.

The motorist who wishes to familiarize himself with the Mississippi Valley country of Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Iowa would do well to read Alvin M. Peterson's recent book, *Palisades and Coulees: The Scenic Mississippi Valley from Prairie du Chien to Red Wing* (Onalaska, Wisconsin, 1948. 77 p.). The writer exploits not only the scenic beauty of this dramatic area, but he recalls some of the more romantic incidents in its history, describes its geographic features, and pictures its wild life. Among the Minnesota localities featured by Mr. Peterson are Winona,

Minneiska, Whitewater State Park, Rollingstone, Lake Pepin, and Red Wing.

In an address on "The Society as a Research Center," published in the *Wisconsin Magazine of History* for March, Alice E. Smith, director of research for the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, focuses attention on "those who come to our building with well-worn brief cases, impatiently waiting until the doors open in the morning and regretfully putting away their papers when the gong sounds for closing at night; who plan their business trips so as to allow them a few hours' time at the Historical Library; who overstay their vacation leaves so they may get in a few 'last licks' on a topic; who turn their Christmas money into photostats of the Draper manuscripts, then put aside savings so they may have the joy of actually handling the precious documents; who write long letters of inquiry about records that time and cost deny them the privilege of examining for themselves; who spend the hour between their own office closing and dinner every evening for years, systematically scouring the columns of county newspapers for data on their chosen subject." In 1948, Miss Smith reports, a total of 52,608 students and scholars like these used the Wisconsin society's library, manuscript, and newspaper resources. They may in time be expected, by means of books and articles, to carry the message of Wisconsin history out into the nation and the world.

Under the title "A Romanticist on the Frontier," F. P. Kenkel retells the story of Gustav Unonius and his New Upsala settlement in Wisconsin in the *Social Justice Review* for February and March. Much of the material in the two installments is quoted from Fredrika Bremer's *Homes of the New World*. In the course of her American travels the Swedish writer spent "A Day among the Swedes on Pine Lake," and she devoted a chapter of her narrative to the subject.

Rich in information on both lumbering and manufacturing is an illustrated *History of the Wisconsin Paper Industry* surveying the century from 1848 to 1948 (Chicago, 1948. 76 p.). Opening the pamphlet is a fairly detailed account of "Paper Manufacturing and Converting in Wisconsin," which traces the story of the industry back to the March day in 1848 when "the Milwaukee *Sentinel and Gazette* was printed on the first paper manufactured in Wisconsin." Among other subjects dealt with are the production of machinery used in paper making and the Forest Products Laboratory in Madison.

The Michigan Historical Commission has issued a useful set of mimeographed "Suggestions for Celebrating Community Anniversaries" prepared by Charles A. Anderson (1948. 5 p.). The writer tells how to gather information about the community and conduct research on its backgrounds, how to plan the celebration, and how to organize, finance, and publicize the program.

The *Iowa Journal of History* for January is distinguished by a completely new format and a pictorial cover. The latter displays a view of the Rock Island Bridge, which is the subject of the leading article in the issue. Dr. William J. Petersen, superintendent of the State Historical Society of Iowa, contributes a discussion of "Iowa History and American History," and the associate editor of the *Journal*, Miss Mildred Throne, is represented by a group of "Letters of a Forty-Niner," Chauncey Swan.

Conditions in northern Iowa in 1858 are described in a series of letters reprinted in the February *Palimpsest* from the *Dubuque Express and Herald* for March 4, 12, and 20, 1858. The writer, Henry C. Kelly, often includes comments on the adjoining area of southern Minnesota in his generalizations about the region.

Some memories of his Minnesota backgrounds are included by Usher L. Burdick in his "Recollections and Reminiscences of Graham's Island," the first installment of which appears in *North Dakota History* for January. His story is an excellent illustration of westward migration, for Mr. Burdick's parents, who hailed from Vermont and New York, emigrated first to southern Minnesota and then moved on to North Dakota. The writer reports that he was born in 1879 on a farm near Owatonna, whence his family migrated farther west in 1882. Two years later the Burdicks settled in the Devil's Lake area which is the scene of much of the narrative.

HISTORY IN THE COMMUNITY

"Horse and Buggy Days at Detroit Lakes" is the descriptive title of a series of cartoons by Guy E. Teague which is appearing in the *Detroit Lakes Tribune* as a Centennial feature. The first of the series was published in the issue of January 13.

The fiftieth anniversary of the incorporation of Solway as a village is the occasion for the publication, in the *Bemidji Daily Pioneer* for

March 24, of an article by Robert Stone about this Beltrami County community. The writer relates that Solway originated as a logging and trading center serving especially the Indians of the Red Lake Reservation.

The Watonwan Farmers' Club of Lake Crystal is the subject of a historical sketch by Mrs. William D. Meixell appearing in the *Lake Crystal Tribune* for February 3. The club, which was organized in 1913 by L. E. Millon, a local teacher of agriculture, is still active in the community. It has not only furnished entertainment and social activity for its members, writes Mrs. Meixell, but it has helped them obtain more favorable shipping rates.

The Mountain Lake chapter of the Gopher Historians has set an example for other junior groups by issuing a publication that is a genuine contribution to Minnesota folklore. It is *Off the Mountain Lake Range: A Collection of Old Recipes and Customs Brought to This Country by the Early Settlers of This Community* (1949. 48 p.), prepared and published as a Centennial project. German and Russian recipes collected among the Mennonite housewives of the community make up the greater part of the booklet. In addition, some of the customs that have persisted in the community and some of the songs and sayings still familiar to its older residents are recorded. The brick oven or *spoahayat* found in the summer kitchens of the town is described; there is a note on the preparation and eating of sunflower seeds; and special customs connected with the observance of church holidays, like Easter, Christmas, and New Year's, receive attention. Students of folklore, as well as those interested in local history, will welcome this little book.

R. S. Thornton is the author of a "History of Douglas County," the first installment of which appears in the *Park Region Echo* of Alexandria for March 22. The narrative deals largely with local settlement, beginning with the arrival of the Kinkaid brothers, William and Alexander, at the site of Alexandria in 1858. Settlements at Holmes City and Lake Osakis are described in the second chapter, published on March 29.

Speaking before the International Falls Chamber of Commerce on April 1, Dean Theodore C. Blegen of the graduate school of the University of Minnesota stressed the significance of the Minnesota Territorial Centennial. If the observance is to have "permanent value and meaning," said the speaker, it "must result in much wider collection and

preservation of our historical records and a concerted effort to make history serve today's citizens." Dean Blegen reminded his listeners that the Minnesota Historical Society was founded in the same year as the territory, and that it has been collecting records of Minnesota's history from the very beginning. He also commended the Koochiching County Historical Society and the local Centennial committee for their constructive programs of activity.

With an article on "Loman, One of County's Oldest Communities," Samuel F. Plummer inaugurates a series of articles about Koochiching County localities and pioneers in the *Daily Journal* of International Falls for February 19. Meading Township is the subject of a sketch appearing in the issue for February 26; that for March 5 includes an account of some ghost towns of the area; the land boom of 1909, with its inflated values, is described on March 12; and a sketch published on March 26 deals with settlement in the Black River Valley. The *Journal* also has been running in its Saturday issues interesting contemporary pictures that reflect especially the record of transportation and lumbering in the International Falls area.

By publishing a series of articles on territorial history specially prepared by Judge Julius E. Haycraft, the *Fairmont Daily Sentinel* has made a substantial and permanent contribution to the Centennial observance. Judge Haycraft's first article, which appears in the issue for January 4, outlines Centennial plans, stresses the significance of the celebration, and reviews the many changes in political allegiance through which the Minnesota country passed before its organization as a territory in 1849. In the articles that follow this introductory sketch, the author deals with such subjects as the Stillwater convention and territorial boundaries, January 15; the passing by Congress of the Minnesota bill, January 26; the establishment of territorial government, February 3 and 14; the organization of Martin County, February 25; the Sioux treaties of 1851, March 8; and the "fake census" of 1857, March 28.

The story of a Norwegian family that pioneered in Rice County is recounted by Emma Quie Bonhus in a recent booklet entitled *From Lantern to Yardlight* (Minneapolis, 1948. 54 p.). In the opening chapters, Mrs. Bonhus traces the European backgrounds of her parents and tells how their families became infected with the "America fever" which drew them to the Midwest frontier before 1860. The family that grew

up in the shadow of St. Olaf College is pictured in the sections that follow.

Based upon a record book kept by James J. Hill in 1859, while serving as a member of the St. Paul volunteer fire department, is an article by Will Reeves entitled "'59 City Fires Recorded by Red-Shirted Jim Hill," which appears in the magazine section of the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for January 30. The manuscript volume, containing reports on the activities of Minnehaha Engine Company 2, was presented to the Minnesota Historical Society by William T. Donaldson of North St. Paul. With the article appear an early portrait of Hill, and a reproduction of a report, in Hill's handwriting, of a fire that destroyed the Peoples Theater on September 8, 1859.

The fiftieth anniversary of the St. Paul council of the Knights of Columbus, which was celebrated by members of the order on February 23, was the occasion for the publication of a pamphlet reviewing *50 Years of Service, 1899-1949* (32 p.). Included are a survey of "The Golden Years" of the order by Francis McGrade, and a review of its accomplishments.

Photostatic copies of the minute books of Mount Zion Hebrew Congregation of St. Paul, covering the years from 1859 to 1948, are now available among the American Jewish Archives in Cincinnati, according to its quarterly publication for January. The congregation, which was chartered by the Minnesota Territorial legislature of 1857, was the earliest Jewish church organization in Minnesota.

Under the caption "Busy Street Bears His Name," Don O'Grady tells the story of Louis Robert, "first St. Paul promoter," in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for March 20. As a trader who operated a string of posts along the Minnesota River, the owner of a steamboat line, a voyageur, a political leader, and a real-estate operator in frontier St. Paul, Robert is pictured as one of the important figures in the early capital.

The question "Who Ruled Carnivals Before Boreas Dynasty?" is answered by Frederick George in a feature article published in the magazine section of the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for February 13. The monarchs for the first three St. Paul winter carnivals, held in 1886, 1887, and 1888, were known by the title "Borealis," rather than "Boreas," accord-

ing to this account. Hence, the ruler of the Centennial carnival of 1949 was designated Boreas XII, whereas the celebration proper was the fifteenth in the series.

To commemorate its sixtieth anniversary, the Rock Valle Lutheran Ladies' Aid society has published a booklet reviewing its history from 1887 to 1947 and containing a wealth of biographical material about its members (1948. 127 p.). The story of the organization of this Yellow Medicine County group is included in a "Short Historical Summary," which also contains reports of earlier anniversary celebrations.

LOCAL SOCIETIES AT WORK

The Finnish-American Historical Society is the subject of an article, based largely upon a report compiled by its secretary, Mr. Matthew Lahti, which is published in the *Mesabi Daily News* of Virginia for January 8. The society, according to this report, has some fifteen hundred members enrolled in sixteen chapters, all in northeastern Minnesota. Plans for a special Centennial commemoration were formulated at meetings of the Virginia chapter held on January 25 and March 27. The Finnish society has set aside August 14 for festivals, picnics, exhibits, and other events honoring the Finnish pioneers of Minnesota and their contributions to the state's development.

On March 3 in Aitkin, the Aitkin County Historical Society staged the first of three Centennial observances planned for 1949. It featured folk dances and singing, particularly by Finnish and Swedish groups residing in the area. Represented also in the form of a pageant were some of the county's industrial activities. For June 14 the society has planned a tour to the site of the Northwest Company's post on Sandy Lake.

At a meeting of the board of directors of the Brown County Historical Society, held in New Ulm on February 4, T. O. Streissguth was named president and Adolph G. Meile was elected treasurer. They succeed Fred W. Johnson and William Brust, both of whom died recently. Plans for marking historic sites in the county were discussed at a meeting of officers and directors held on March 29.

A recent addition to the roll of county historical societies is the Carlton County group, which was organized at Cloquet on March 28. The organization meeting was held under the sponsorship of the local Rotary

Club and the Community Service Committee. Mr. Arch Grahn, field agent of the state historical society, was present.

With a cast of more than a hundred participating, a Centennial production entitled "Minnesota through the Years" was staged by the Chippewa County Historical Society at Montevideo on March 3 and 4. It consisted of a series of tableaux arranged and directed by Mrs. Olof Larson. Included were scenes depicting the founding of Minnesota industries, frontier family life, and pioneer dances.

At a meeting of the Cottonwood County Historical Society held at Jeffers on January 26, Mrs. Frank Sykora reported on the annual meeting of the Minnesota Historical Society held earlier in the same month in St. Paul. Plans for making and placing markers on historic sites throughout the county were discussed. In this project the society has enlisted the help of the Boy Scouts. According to an announcement in the *Cottonwood County Citizen* of Windom for March 16, the society has obtained the use of a small building for museum purposes. To maintain this property, the county commissioners have appropriated a thousand dollars for the coming year.

That the Faribault County Historical Society has purchased the James B. Wakefield house at Blue Earth for use as a museum is announced in the *Blue Earth Post* for March 24. This active organization has presented some notable programs in recent months. Township histories were read at meetings held at Huntley on February 7 and at Easton March 7; and on March 24 the organization sponsored the presentation at Blue Earth of a play re-enacting "Pioneer Days in Blue Earth City." Officers of the society, elected on March 7, include Miss Marion Drake, president, Mrs. W. F. Merrill, vice-president, Mrs. Sherman Oliver, secretary, and Miss Cecelia Gorman, treasurer.

The museum of the Fillmore County Historical Society, recently opened at Preston, is described as a "dream come true" in an illustrated article by Al Olson appearing in the *Winona Republican-Herald* for January 14. The dream was that of the late Mr. and Mrs. John Mills, Preston pioneers, who filled their home with antique furniture and the tools and utensils of the frontiersman, and then willed the house and its contents to the local historical society. Mr. Olson reviews the steps by which the museum became a reality — the incorporation of the society,

the sale of the house, the purchase with the proceeds of a building on the main street of the community, and the installation of the society's collections there. With Mrs. E. A. Vischer in charge as curator, the museum is now open to the public from 1:00 to 5:00 P.M. daily except Sundays and holidays.

Establishment Day — March 3 — was marked by the Freeborn County Historical Society with a reception held at the home of its second vice-president, Mr. Henry Claybourn of Albert Lea. At the same time members of the society marked the ninety-second anniversary of the county. The society's president, Mr. Lester W. Spicer, was re-elected at the annual meeting, held in Albert Lea on January 20.

"Minnesota's Big Birthday Party" was the subject chosen by Dean J. M. Nolte, director of the Minnesota Territorial Centennial, when he spoke before a meeting of the Hennepin County Historical Society in Minneapolis on January 26. At a meeting held on March 17, Professor Lennox Mills of the University of Minnesota spoke on "Two Ways of Life." The Hennepin County organization suffered a serious loss in the death of its executive secretary, Edward A. Blomfield, on February 14. To take his place, Mr. Joseph W. Zalusky, formerly president of the society, has been named. The new president is Mr. Guy W. Alexander.

The Houston County Historical Society was organized at a meeting held in Houston on March 25. Mrs. Henry McCune was named president, Mrs. John Refsland is vice-president, and Mrs. Hazel Smith is secretary-treasurer.

Mr. L. A. Rossman of Grand Rapids, a member of the executive council of the Minnesota Historical Society, was the speaker when the Itasca County Historical Society met in Grand Rapids on January 10. He took as his subject the Indians of northern Minnesota and their role in Itasca County history.

Plans for local participation in the Centennial celebration were discussed by members of the Koochiching County Historical Society meeting at International Falls on January 10. Reports on community history were read by Mrs. W. V. Kane and Mrs. C. M. Speelman.

The Mahnomen County Historical Society was organized at a meeting held in Mahnomen on January 31. A constitution was adopted, and

temporary officers were elected. They are A. J. Powers, president, and Seymour Miller, secretary-treasurer.

The Mower County Pioneer and Historical Society is the subject of an advertisement, occupying half a page, in the *Austin Daily Herald* for March 26. Space for this publicity, which makes an appeal for contributions to be used in erecting a building for this local society on the Mower County Fairgrounds, was donated by the K. O. Wold Drug Company. It is planned to build the structure in 1949 as a Centennial project—a "Living Memorial" to the county's pioneers. Listed in the advertisement are the names of active and honorary members of the local historical society. Among the gifts for its building received earlier by the Mower County group are one of ten thousand dollars from the GAR, and another of a thousand dollars from the heirs of A. V. Ellis.

About fifty people attended a meeting of the Norman County Historical Society at Ada on February 7, and heard Mr. Harold Searls, director of pageants for the Centennial, review the story of Indian treaties and wars in Minnesota and outline plans for the pageants he is staging. Talks on local history were given by Mrs. C. J. Lofgren and Mr. Carl Snustad.

The first of a series of Centennial programs arranged by the Olmsted County Historical Society was held in Rochester on January 7. Honored on that occasion was a pioneer resident of the county, Miss Ann E. Rice of Oronoco, whose eightieth birthday was celebrated in connection with the meeting. A feature of the program was the reading by Miss Rice of excerpts from her recently completed history of her native township.

From the Rochester Junior Chamber of Commerce, the Olmsted County Historical Society received recently a gift of \$572.70—the proceeds from a masquerade ball given on February 14. It was specified that the funds be used to defray the expenses involved in making microfilm copies of the society's newspaper files. Eventually, the organization expects to microfilm all local newspapers and to purchase a reading machine.

Although the Pine County Historical Society is less than a year old, its name can be added to the list of local historical societies in Minnesota that are actively engaged in publishing. As its contribution to the Centennial observance, the organization has issued a record of *One Hundred*

Years in Pine County (1949. 150 p.). Collaborating in its preparation, are numerous members of the society who wrote historical sketches of cities, villages, and townships. For information they turned to local archives, newspaper files, and interviews with pioneers. The result is the first history of Pine County to appear as a separate book. It was compiled under the supervision of a Centennial history committee of the society, with Mrs. J. P. Miller serving as chairman.

About a hundred people attended the annual meeting of the Polk County Historical Society, which was held in Crookston on February 1. The objectives of a county historical organization were outlined by Mr. Arch Grahn of the state historical society, and Centennial plans were discussed.

The accomplishments of *Horace William Shaler Cleveland: Pioneer American Landscape Architect* are recognized in a brochure recently published by the St. Anthony Park Area Historical Association (Minneapolis, 1949). The bulk of the booklet is devoted to an address on Cleveland and his career by Dean Theodore C. Blegen, who gives emphasis to his subject's plans for Twin City parks and boulevards. The address was presented at Lakewood Chapel in Minneapolis on October 17, 1948, when a memorial marker on "Cleveland's hitherto forgotten and neglected grave" was dedicated.

At a meeting of the St. Anthony Park Historical Association held on February 23, its members voted to change the name of the organization to the Ramsey County Historical Society. The group, which has about two hundred members, is conducting negotiations looking toward the removal to a new location and the permanent preservation of the Heman Gibbs house. That structure, now on the University Farm at Cleveland and Larpenteur, is the subject of an article in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for February 20.

"Rice County 100 Years Ago" was the title of a talk presented by the Reverend John P. Foley before a meeting of the Rice County Historical Society at Faribault on March 2. Featured also was a paper on R. A. Mott, pioneer Rice County lawyer and legislator, by his daughter, Miss Louise Mott. Extracts from both addresses appear in the *Faribault Daily News* for March 3. At the meeting, which marked the local observance of Establishment Day, announcement was made of a county appropria-

tion of a thousand dollars toward the restoration of the old Alexander Faribault house. The county historical society expects to use the house as a museum.

Mr. Glanville Smith of Cold Spring was the principal speaker at a meeting in Becker on March 10 of the newly organized Sherburne County Historical Society. He told of the possibilities for preparing a map on which would be located historic sites in Sherburne, Stearns, and Benton counties. A boyhood trip by ox cart from Mendota to Crookston was described by Mr. Frank Bernier of Elk River, who gave a reminiscent talk. The Sherburne County society was organized at Becker on January 26, with Mrs. Clifford Orr as president.

The Reverend Henry Retzek of Spring Hill discussed Norse exploration in Minnesota as evidenced by the Kensington rune stone inscription before a meeting of the Stearns County Historical Society at St. Cloud on April 1. A "chapel site" discovered near Sauk Centre by the speaker is described in detail by Hjalmar R. Holand in a recent book. Father Retzek reviewed Mr. Holand's thesis, and described the route which he believes the Norsemen followed in reaching what is now Minnesota.

The Traverse County Historical Society was organized at a meeting held at Wheaton on March 17. A constitution was adopted, a membership drive was planned, and temporary officers were elected. They are J. E. Pearson, chairman, and Arthur Spainhower, secretary-treasurer.

The Winona County Historical Society, which has been inactive since the war, was reorganized on February 4 at a meeting held in Winona. The problem of space for a museum, discussed at this meeting, was solved before March 15, when members held another gathering. It was then announced that a room in the courthouse had been assigned to the society. On the same occasion, the society's president, Mr. P. F. Loughrey, reported on the annual meeting of the Minnesota Historical Society.

Mr. Henry Williamson of Canby, a great-grandson of the distinguished missionary to the Sioux, Dr. Thomas S. Williamson, was the speaker at a meeting of the Yellow Medicine County Historical Society at Clarkfield on March 7. The society, which has been inactive since 1940, was reorganized recently, and Mrs. William Lee of Granite Falls was named president.

ESTABLISHMENT DAY

Day-long and wide-spread was the celebration on March 3, 1949, that marked the Centennial of Minnesota's attainment of territorial status. Since it was on March 3, 1849, that Congress passed the bill creating Minnesota Territory, it was appropriate that one of the most impressive ceremonies of the Centennial year should commemorate that event. It was fitting, too, that much of the day's pageantry should center in St. Paul, capital of both the territory and the state.

The Twin City Philatelic Society inaugurated the day's activities with a program, at the St. Paul Hotel, arranged to call attention to the "first day of issue of the commemorative stamp" that marks the Centennial on a national scale. The design, featuring a Red River ox cart, has since become familiar, and it has served to call attention to a unique feature of territorial life and activity. Among those who participated in the program were Governor Luther W. Youngdahl, Dean J. M. Nolte, director of the Centennial, and Mr. R. E. Fellers of Washington, D.C., superintendent of the federal division of stamps. An extensive display of rare stamps and of territorial cancellations was on view in connection with the program. It was followed by a luncheon at the Ryan Hotel, arranged by the St. Paul Association and the Junior Association of Commerce. The guests of honor were Governor Youngdahl and living ex-governors of Minnesota. The principal speaker, the Very Reverend Vincent J. Flynn, president of St. Thomas College, stressed the contributions of the St. Paul colleges to Minnesota's progress during its first century. Immediately following, members of the legislature met in joint session in the House Chamber to hear a special program of Centennial addresses, with Speaker John Hartle presiding. Among those who spoke were the Governor and Mr. Bergmann Richards, president of the Minnesota Historical Society.

Some sixteen hundred people jammed the corridors and museum galleries of the Historical Building for the open house that was the feature of the afternoon program. As its special contribution to the Establishment Day festivities, the historical society had prepared a series of notable displays, including the Kensington rune stone and special arrangements of period furniture. The famous stone, which was returned to Minnesota for the occasion from the Smithsonian Institution in Washington, was unveiled with appropriate remarks by Governor Youngdahl. Members of the society's volunteer women's organization, of which Mrs. F. K. Weyerhaeuser of St. Paul is chairman, presided as hostesses and served

punch from gaily decorated bowls of ice. Masses of blooming plants banked throughout the building gave the event an appropriately festive air.

For the Centennial dinner that brought the March 3 celebration to a close, the scene shifted to the campus of the University of Minnesota in Minneapolis. There, in the magnificent setting of Coffman Memorial Union, about four hundred people gathered to honor Minnesota, its "100 Living Great," selected by popular vote through the state's Junior Chambers of Commerce, and other notable personages. The program that followed the dinner included a dramatic representation of "The Homesteader," produced by the university radio station, KUOM; a brief talk on the "Birth of Our State" by Mr. Richards; a Centennial message from the Governor; the introduction of the sixty-five "Living Great" Minnesotans who were present; and the presentation of the "Centennial Citizen," ninety-seven-year-old Horace Farnham of Minneapolis. The names of the "Living Great" are listed and sketches of many of the men and women thus honored appear in the Twin City newspapers for March 4. Among those chosen are eleven members of the Minnesota Historical Society's executive council — Theodore C. Blegen, Judge Kenneth G. Brill, J. A. A. Burnquist, Homer P. Clark, the Very Reverend Vincent J. Flynn, Mike Holm, Judge Clarence R. Magney, James L. Morrill, L. A. Rossman, Judge John B. Sanborn, and Governor Youngdahl — and a member of its staff, Grace Lee Nute.

Throughout Minnesota, in cities, towns, villages, and schools, Establishment Day was commemorated by special programs, assemblies, and meetings. Churches observed the anniversary on the Sunday preceding or that following March 3. In the national Capital, too, the occasion received notice, for there the Honorable Edward J. Thye, senior Senator from Minnesota, addressed his colleagues on "The One Hundredth Anniversary of Minnesota."

An editorial in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for March 3 evaluates the significance of Establishment Day as a "tribute to this state's distinguished century of progress." The pioneers who endured the "rigors of frontier life to found an empire on the Mississippi" and the "generations that came after them," reads the editorial, "are being paid homage today by the beneficiaries of their foresight and courage." The writer points out that on the Centennial of its birth as a territory, "a state that has attained front rank in forestry, mining, railroading, agriculture, dairying, meat packing, education and culture pauses to study the lives and times of the hardy

pioneers who made all this possible." And the editorial closes with a challenge for the future: "The second century of Minnesota's progress has begun."

CENTENNIAL NEWS

"Of real value to the Territorial Centennial are the contributions of Minnesota's authors, publishers, librarians, and booksellers," writes Helen L. MacDonald of the University of Minnesota Press in *The Interpreter* for March. In this publication of the university's general extension division, Miss MacDonald lists some of the books that have appeared or may be expected to appear during 1949. It is gratifying to note that she leads off with a book that bears the imprint of the Minnesota Historical Society—Mary W. Berthel's *Horns of Thunder*. Many less pretentious publications issued in commemoration of Minnesota's one-hundredth birthday are described in the pages that follow. Most of them may be obtained for the asking or at nominal cost from the firms or individuals that published them.

The Centennial has been marked in Washington, D.C., with an extensive Minnesota exhibit, which opened at the Library of Congress on March 5 and is scheduled to continue until June 15. The display undertakes to present a review of Minnesota's history as it is reflected in books, maps, portraits, manuscripts, lithographs and other prints, photographs, paintings, newspapers, music, and many types of artifacts. Arranged in topical sequence, it deals with such subjects as Minnesota Indians and their culture, exploration, the fur trade, frontier forts and trading posts, pioneer life, missions and missionaries, territorial government, the attainment of statehood, the Sioux War, education, and literature. A feature of the exhibit is a collection of enlarged photographs picturing Minnesota cities and villages, historic buildings, and such phases of contemporary life and activity as agriculture, lumbering, mining, manufacturing, recreation, and education. The formal opening of the display was marked by an address by the Honorable Hubert H. Humphrey, Senator from Minnesota, who spoke on "Minnesota—The Saga of the North Star State." His historical survey is published in full in a handsome illustrated catalogue of the *Centennial of the Territory of Minnesota Exhibition* issued for the event (Washington, 1949. 74 p.). The material displayed was drawn not only from the Library of Congress,

but from the National Gallery of Art, the Smithsonian Institution, and from various Minnesota depositories, including the Minnesota Historical Society. The exhibit is the ninth in a series arranged by the Library of Congress to commemorate important state anniversaries.

Makers of Minnesota: An Illustrated Story of the Builders of Our State is the title of an interesting and authentic Centennial booklet by Kern Pederson (1949. 54 p.). Herein the artist-author has assembled more than fifty cartoon biographies which appeared originally as Centennial features in Minnesota newspapers during the past year. Accurate and concise information about explorers, political leaders, industrial promoters, religious figures, educators, and the like is to be found in the booklet. Copies may be obtained for fifty cents each at the information desk in the Historical Building or from the author, who lives at 2066 Case Avenue, St. Paul 6.

What is perhaps the most original contribution yet made to the Minnesota Territorial Centennial commemoration is Cliff Sakry's *Minnesota: A Musical Play*, which has been published by the Times Publishing Company of St. Cloud (114 p.). In this printed version only the dialogue and lyrics are given; lacking are Mr. Sakry's melodies and the harmony and orchestral arrangements provided by Harvey Waugh. As a Centennial observance, the play was produced in St. Cloud under the auspices of the *St. Cloud Daily Times* and Radio Station KFAM-FM on March 15, 16, and 17. Of the twenty-odd characters in the play, only four "attempt a nearly authentic portrayal of actual people of the Territorial period," according to the author. These, says Mr. Sakry, are Henry H. Sibley, Samuel Burkleo, Morton S. Wilkinson, and Franklin Steele. The other players represent "those lesser, unrecorded people" who made up the bulk of the territory's population. Mr. Sakry expresses the hope that his "audience will absorb some of the atmosphere of 1849 while recognizing and retaining whatever amount of history 'gets into the act.'"

The forts and settlements that dotted Minnesota Territory in 1849, and the few roads and more numerous trails that connected them, are located on a map of the territory printed on the back of the 1949 *Official Road Map of Minnesota*. A comparison of the two maps highlights for the user the "story of developing primitive trails into modern super

highways during the past 100 years." Numerous pictorial features and reproductions of appropriate documents add to the interest and value of this attractive territorial map, issued in commemoration of the Minnesota Centennial.

Minnesota Spans a Century is the title of an elaborately illustrated brochure published by the Minnesota Bankers Association as a contribution to the Centennial. Co-operating in its preparation were M. K. Cragun and L. W. Nelson of Minnesota Historical Society's Centennial staff. From the era of exploration and the fur trade, the narrative carries the story of the North Star State through the decades when settlers began to trickle into the upper Mississippi Valley, into the territorial era, and down to the industrial triumphs of recent years. Farmers, lumberjacks, Red River traders, miners, railroad builders, steel magnates, and many others mingle in these pages. Among the many illustrations are views of the Falls of St. Anthony and its mills, early and modern, a Red River cart train, steamboats on the Mississippi and Lake Superior, pioneer locomotives, a sod house, farming and lumbering activities, early summer resort hotels, old Fort Snelling, and the like. Copies of the booklet may be obtained from the Minnesota Historical Society and at local banks.

A unique centennial booklet is *A Check List: The Territorial Post-offices of Minnesota* (16 p.), published by Mr. Jefferson Jones of Bozeman, Montana. Specially designated are the post offices that were located in Dakota Territory after 1858, as well as those originally listed in the territories of Michigan, Wisconsin, and Iowa. Mr. Jones's interest in the post offices of Minnesota Territory stems from the fact that he has long collected letters bearing their cancellations.

Decorative as well as useful is a map of Minnesota Territory, based upon the Cowperthwait map of 1850, which has been issued in commemoration of the Centennial by the Northwestern National Life Insurance Company of Minneapolis. Bordering the map are pictorial representations in color of Hennepin at the Falls of St. Anthony, Schoolcraft at Lake Itasca, a Red River cart, the Pipestone quarry, a Mississippi River steamboat, the Round Tower at Fort Snelling, and other appropriate scenes. The same firm has published a Centennial booklet containing a wealth of interesting information about *Early Music in Minnesota* (20 p.). Included are short illustrated notes about the Hutchinson and Andrews family singers, the beginnings of the Minneapolis Symphony

Orchestra, the Philharmonic Club and the Thursday Musical of Minneapolis, the Schubert Club of St. Paul, the Matinee Musicale of Duluth, early Minnesota sheet music, and similar topics. All appeared originally in the 1948-49 programs of the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra.

The St. Paul Public Schools have issued a Centennial manual entitled *Minnesota Today, Yesterday, Tomorrow* (14 p.), which "presents suggested centers of interest and activities as resource material, helpful to teachers and pupils in planning study of and instruction in Minnesota during one hundred years." In it are outlined appropriate programs of activity for the primary, intermediate, and upper grades, and for art, home economics, and music classes. Listed, too, are dances and "Popular Games and Sports of Pioneer Days and Today." Helpful bibliographical suggestions conclude the manual.

In commemoration of the Territorial Centennial, the Minnesota Federal Savings and Loan Association has revised and reissued a booklet of *Minnesota Memoirs* originally published in 1938 (32 p.). In it are pictured, by means of cartoons, some interesting Minnesota personalities and events. A running comment tells something about the founding and the history of the association.

The Minnesota Historical Society's curator of newspapers, Mr. Wilmoughby M. Babcock, is the author of the leading article in the March number of *Minnesota Libraries* — an informing discussion of "The Librarian and the Minnesota Centennial." He suggests some of the more accessible and useful books and pamphlets, many of them issued by the Minnesota Historical Society or its Centennial committee, with which Minnesota librarians should be familiar, and he illustrates the possible uses to which manuscripts, newspapers, and pamphlets may be put. Mr. Babcock prepared his paper for presentation before a meeting of the reference section of the Minnesota Library Association held in the fall of 1948.

To commemorate "Minnesota's 100th Birthday," the March number of *Everybody's Health* presents a brief article telling about the state's progress in its fight against tuberculosis during the past century. Figuring in the narrative are such Minnesota medical leaders as Dr. Charles N. Hewitt and Dr. H. Longstreet Taylor. The role of George C. Christian in inaugurating and promoting the state's Christmas Seal campaigns also is given emphasis.

A Centennial loan exhibition of paintings, water colors, and drawings reflecting Minnesota in art during more than two centuries opened at the Minneapolis Institute of Arts on the evening of March 15 with a program of old-time songs, a style show depicting fashions through ten decades of Minnesota's history, and a reception for members and invited guests. Included in the "Historic Minnesota" display were pictures by such important artists of the Minnesota frontier as George Catlin, Seth Eastman, Henry Lewis, Eastman Johnson, Peter Rindisbacher, John Mix Stanley, Frank B. Mayer, and Edwin Whitefield. They were drawn from the holdings of private collectors as well as from the Smithsonian Institution, the Detroit Institute of Arts, Goucher College in Baltimore, and other collections. About half of the sixty-five pictures displayed were from the collection of the Minnesota Historical Society. From the society, too, came the most spectacular feature of the show—a panorama of the Sioux War of 1862 by John Stevens. This primitive moving picture was unrolled on an average of three times each week during the course of the exhibition, which continued until May 22. The institute devoted its illustrated *Bulletin* for March 5 to the Centennial exhibition, and it published a check list of the pictures included. Another Centennial art show, composed of the work of "Modern Painters in Minnesota" during the past two decades, opened at the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis on April 3. It will be on view through July 30.

The Centennial theme was stressed by the Minnesota Museum of Natural History in a series of five lectures presented on Sunday afternoons during January. Mr. Harold Searls, Centennial pageant director, opened the series on January 2 with an illustrated survey of "Minnesota Indians, Past and Present." On January 9, Dr. Grace Lee Nute, research associate on the staff of the Minnesota Historical Society, discussed the exploration of the Minnesota canoe country. "The Story of Minnesota Forestry" was outlined on January 16 by Dr. Frank Kaufert of the University of Minnesota division of forestry; and Dr. George M. Schwartz of the Minnesota Geological Survey discussed Minnesota's iron resources on January 23. "Our Wild Life Through a Century of Settlement" was the subject of the closing lecture, which was given on January 30 by the director of the Museum of Natural History, Dr. W. J. Breckenridge. The first installment of an article based upon the latter lecture appears elsewhere in this issue.

A series of thirteen radio dramatizations, broadcast under the general title "Tales of Minnesota," is the contribution to the Centennial observance of KUOM, the University of Minnesota radio station. The initial program, which re-enacted the career of David Thompson, "The Star Man," was broadcast on March 26. It has been followed by weekly programs at 5:30 P.M. on Saturdays. Eighteen other Minnesota stations and one in South Dakota have arranged to carry the program by transcription. "News of Yesteryear" is the title of another Centennial radio series broadcast over KROC of Rochester on Sundays at 1:00 P.M. It is sponsored by the Union National Bank of Rochester, and material for the script has been obtained largely from the Olmsted County Historical Society.

Many phases of Minnesota history were considered by scholars who participated in a three-day institute on the subject held in observance of the Centennial at the College of St. Catherine from March 28 to 30. Among those contributing to the various sessions were Dr. Harold Dean Cater of the Minnesota Historical Society, who opened with a general survey of Centennial plans; Mother Eucharista, who discussed Catholic education in Minnesota; Professor Donald R. Torbert of the University of Minnesota, who spoke on Midwest architecture; Professor A. C. Krey, who reviewed Benedictine contributions to the state's development; the Right Reverend James M. Reardon, who took as his subject "Pioneer Log Cabins in Minnesota"; and Dean Theodore C. Blegen, who surveyed the entire sweep of Northwest history from the period of the explorers to modern times.

The Minnesota Territorial Centennial was the theme of a program presented before a rural teachers' institute held in Rochester on January 21 and 22. Five Olmsted County teachers participated by sketching the local historical backgrounds of Rochester, the townships of High Forest, Oronoco, and Marion, and the Bamber Valley area. Centennial materials available to teachers were described by Miss Fern Kennedy of the state department of education.

The selection and coronation on February 13 in the St. Paul Auditorium of the Minnesota Territorial Centennial queen was an event of the St. Paul Winter Carnival. Miss Mary Durey, who was honored on that occasion, has continued to represent the Centennial at various celebrations, pageants, and conventions.

Plans for participation in the Centennial celebration were discussed by members of the American Yugoslav Association meeting at Gilbert on February 13. Among the objectives proposed was the preparation of a historical study of Slavic contributions to Minnesota culture in the course of the past century.

A Centennial display of pictures, objects, and manuscripts of local historical interest was arranged in the Village Hall at Pine City from February 26 to March 5. Co-operating in assembling the material were the Pine County Historical Society, the Wednesday Study Club, and the local Commercial Club.

NEWS OF THE MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The society is conducting a contest looking toward the doubling of its membership before this earliest Minnesota organization celebrates its one-hundredth birthday on October 20. If the society is to attain this goal, it must enroll twenty-five hundred new members in the next few months. Present members have an opportunity to help by entering a contest which has been planned especially for them. The member who enrolls the largest number of new members before the contest closes on October 10 will receive two tickets for the society's Centennial birthday banquet on October 20 in Coffman Memorial Union on the university campus. Furthermore, the first prize winner (provided he lives within the borders of the state) will be furnished with transportation to and from the banquet, and if he needs a baby sitter, one will be provided. Members have a chance to compete for nine additional prizes. The winner of the second prize will receive two banquet tickets; the individual who comes in third will be given a set of Centennial publications; and each of the next seven contestants will be privileged to choose any one book published by the society. All prize winners will be seated near the main speaker at the Centennial banquet, and they will be introduced to the audience as the contest winners. To simplify the problem of inviting people to join the society, a membership blank is printed on the inside back cover of this issue. Cut it out, write your name in the margin, and hand it to someone who will enjoy the privileges of membership in the Minnesota Historical Society. Invite him to send it to the society with his check. The society will be glad to send you additional membership blanks. Help your state historical society double its membership in 1949.

During the summer months—June, July, and August—all departments of the society except the museum will be closed on Saturdays and Sundays. The museum will be open as usual from 8:30 A.M. to 5:00 P.M. on Saturdays and from 2:00 P.M. to 5:00 P.M. on Sundays. It will, however, be closed on Mondays.

The index for volume 29 of *Minnesota History* has been completed and is now ready for distribution. It is available free of charge to all members of the society and subscribers to its publications.

Members of the Dome Club were entertained in the society's museum at a Valentine tea on February 14. The active section of the Schubert Club, a St. Paul musical organization, provided an interesting program of old-time songs and piano compositions as a feature of the entertainment.

The contents of thirty-one large packing cases that arrived in St. Paul on February 14 in the French *Merci* car were promptly arranged for display in the society's museum, where they were on view during the spring months. The car was one of forty-nine "40 et 8" boxcars filled with gifts sent to the United States by the people of France as a token of gratitude for the American Friendship Train, which carried food to France in 1947. To Minnesota the French car brought hundreds of packages containing paintings, engravings, prints, books, posters, china, glass, fine fabrics, lace, dolls, toys, lamps, and scores of other items. Part of the collection will be on view in the Historical Building throughout the summer. The collection will then be removed to the State Fair for display. Thereafter a committee, of which Mr. Jarle Leirfallom, director of the Minnesota division of social welfare, is chairman, will distribute the material to various museums and institutions throughout Minnesota.

Since January 1, the art gallery in the society's museum has been the scene of three Centennial exhibits. The first, a collection of Minnesota portraits important chiefly as works of art, remained on display until mid-March. A one-man show, honoring the memory of the late Charles L. Bartholomew of Minneapolis, was installed on March 16. It consisted of original drawings by the Minnesota cartoonist who for more than half a century was popularly known as "Bart." Thirty original water colors of Minnesota Indians and scenes by Frank B. Mayer and a group of lithographs of Minnesota cities and villages have been on display since

May 19. The Mayer pictures have been loaned to the society by Goucher College, Baltimore.

Kodachrome slides in full color of John Stevens' panorama of the Sioux War are now available. They were made for the society through the courtesy of Dr. A. H. Sanford, president of the Olmsted County Historical Society, who also made a set for his organization. The state society's set may be borrowed by clubs, local historical societies, and other organizations for local showings. With the set is a typewritten copy of the original script explaining the panorama. A 750-Watt air-cooled projector is required for a satisfactory showing of the slides.

Under the title *Documentary Panorama: John Stevens and His Sioux War Pictures*, the Folk Arts Foundation of America has issued a reprint of the article by Bertha L. Heilbron which appeared in the March issue of this magazine. Copies of the booklet may be purchased for twenty-five cents from the foundation, of which Carlton C. Qualey, Carleton College, Northfield, is president, or from the Minnesota Historical Society.

Members of the staff of the society's Forest Products History Foundation were responsible for an entire session of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association's forty-second annual meeting, which was held in Madison, Wisconsin, from April 14 to 16. Included in the foundation's program, on the morning of April 16, were papers on "Transportation Problems in Logging" by William G. Rector, on "The Introduction of the Band Saw Mill" by Rodney C. Loehr, on "Logs for Saginaw" by Robert C. Johnson, and on "The War of the Substitutes" by Paul F. Sharp. Representing the society at the meeting also were its director, Dr. Harold Dean Cater; three members of its executive council, Dean Theodore C. Blegen and Professor August C. Krey of the University of Minnesota, and Dr. Guy Stanton Ford of Washington, D. C.; and four staff members, Mary W. Berthel, Bertha L. Heilbron, Lucile Kane, and Dr. Grace Lee Nute. Present, too, were Dr. Solon J. Buck of Washington, D. C., and Dr. Lewis Beeson of Lansing, Michigan, former superintendents of the society.

To the delight of readers and staff alike, Miss Lois Fawcett returned to her post as reference librarian on March 14. Miss Fawcett resigned on September 15 to accept an appointment as head of the reference department in the St. Paul Public Library. All users of the society's vast re-

search facilities are happy to welcome her back to her accustomed place in the society's library reading room.

As the Minnesota Historical Society's curator of manuscripts, writes Sally Luther in the *Minneapolis Sunday Tribune* for March 20, Miss Lucile Kane "helps preserve state history by collecting and cataloging letters, diaries, business records, and reminiscent accounts by early Minnesotans. She also gives guidance to novelists like James Gray (St. Paul) and C. A. Wilhelm Moberg (Stockholm, Sweden), who occasionally turn up in the quiet, shelf-lined manuscript library of the historical society." Miss Kane's special interests as well as her activities on behalf of the society are revealed in this lively sketch.

A four-page parchment document recording one of Minnesota's most widely known and discussed real-estate transactions—the deed of January 4, 1871, by which were conveyed to Franklin Steele more than six thousand acres of the Fort Snelling Military Reservation—has been received from Steele's granddaughter, Mrs. Edmund S. Brown of Radnor, Pennsylvania. This important addition to the Minnesota Historical Society's collection of Steele Papers was made possible through the generous assistance of Mr. Welles Eastman of Wayzata. Steele originally purchased the Fort Snelling Reservation in 1857. The price was \$90,000 and Steele agreed to make a down payment of \$30,000 and to pay the remaining sum in two equal annual installments, but he could not make the second payment, and title remained with the government. In 1861, however, when the government took over the reservation for the use of Civil War troops, it agreed to pay Steele two thousands dollars a month in rentals. Under the terms of the final settlement, the accumulated rentals absorbed Steele's back payments, and he received title to the reserve from the government under the terms of the 1871 deed. There, in bold script covering three entire pages, the secretary of war, William W. Belknap, declares that Steele has been granted title to the major portion of the reservation.

Miss Eleanor Mitchell of St. Paul has presented a manuscript book recording subscriptions to Jane Grey Swisshelm's *St. Cloud Democrat*. Undated, with the exception of the note "transcribed in 1861," the list was evidently kept by different members of Mrs. Swisshelm's staff.

The register used from 1886 to 1878 by a Mantorville hotel, the Hubbell House, has been received from the present owner, Mr. Paul J.

Pappas. The hotel, which was built in 1854 on what was then a much-traveled route through southern Minnesota, attracted many prominent visitors. Among the names recorded in the register, for example, are those of Bishop Henry Whipple and Governor Alexander Ramsey. Splashed across the pages also are advertisements of theatrical troupes and the signatures of their members. Included are the Hutchinson singers and "Ben Bishop's Sensation Troupe."

Jay Cooke's autobiography is among the items from his papers, in the Baker Library of Harvard University, that have been copied for the society on microfilm. Copied also were letters for the period after 1874 relating to Cooke's lands in the Red River Valley and farther west. The items reproduced were selected by Miss Lucile Kane, the society's curator of manuscripts, while engaged in a field trip in January.

To the society's genealogical collection, the Past Officers' Club of the Minnesota Daughters of the American Revolution has added Calvin L. Farrar's *Some American Farrars* (Oakland, California, 1948). The gift takes the form of a memorial to the late Mrs. Mary McKenney, who was a member not only of the DAR, but of the society's library staff.

READERS' COMMENTS

Mrs. Francis H. (Lilian Lamprey) Murray, in a letter of April 4, adds an interesting personal note to the study of "The Sisters of St. Joseph and the Minnesota Frontier" which Sister Helen Angela Hurley contributed to the March issue of this magazine. Mrs. Murray relates:

My mother's ancestors lived in St. Louis. In 1836 three nuns from Lyons, France, went there and opened the first school that village ever had, and my grandmother, Marie Rose Turpin, was their first pupil. She was the daughter of Mrs. Amable Turpin (mentioned on p. 7), who welcomed the nuns on their arrival in St. Paul, Nov., 1850. Marie Rose Turpin was the wife of Louis Robert, St. Paul pioneer, and her parents followed her to St. Paul. . . .

The editor is grateful to Mr. John R. Miner of Rochester for sending her the address of Mrs. Lester (Vesta Horton) Moe. After reading "Documentary Panorama" in the March number of *Minnesota History*, he recalled Mrs. Moe's remark "that her grandfather used to exhibit one of Stevens' panoramas." By following the clue contained in Mr. Miner's

letter of April 22, the editor has been able to fill in most of the gaps in the story of John Stevens and his Sioux War panoramas.

A letter to Mrs. Moe brought a response in which she relates that "Henry Horton was my grandfather, and my father, George E. Horton, is still living on a farm in Olmsted County. He has told me many times about the panorama and he owns a portrait of his father painted by Mr. Stevens." Further interesting details came in a letter of May 8 written after Mrs. Moe talked with her father. Here is Mr. Horton's story as told by his daughter:

Henry Horton traveled with the Stevens panorama furnishing the music by playing the violin. He then bought the panorama and traveled with it in Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Iowa showing it in schoolhouses and town halls and giving a dance afterward. Dad says his father had the show before he was born and that he saw it twice when he was ten or twelve years old and that was about fifty-five years ago. He still remembers one of the songs his father taught him that went with the show. The title of it is "Bonnie Wee Window." . . . It is a rather humorous romantic ballad.

The panorama then went to my father's half-brother, William Horton, who lived in Winona. He in turn sold it to a Negro troupe in that same town. Mr. [Burt W.] Eaton told Dad of his interest in locating the panorama. Dad told him the story and Mr. Eaton found it in Winona. . . . Dad says he knows of three panoramas that Stevens painted. One went to Europe, one to the east of the U. S., and one you have in St. Paul.

WHO'S WHO IN THIS ISSUE

Mr. Holman Hamilton of Fort Wayne, Indiana, whose Centennial article on "Zachary Taylor and Minnesota" has the leading place in this issue, is a graduate of Williams College, a former Guggenheim Fellow, and an experienced newspaperman. His definitive study of *Zachary Taylor: Soldier of the Republic* was published in 1941, and he is now engaged in writing a second work on "Old Rough and Ready." The latter will deal largely with Taylor's election to the presidency and his brief administration, which coincided so closely with Minnesota's organization as a territory. The present article may be looked upon as a by-product of Mr. Hamilton's detailed examination of the manuscript sources relating to Taylor's career.

Dr. Philip D. Jordan, who contributes to the series of "Territorial Daguerreotypes" an artist-author's sketch of the Lake Minnetonka area in the 1850's, is professor of history in the University of Minnesota. He

is widely known for his books on western social history. Among them are *Singin' Yankees* (1946) and *The National Road* (1948). He has recently completed, for publication in book form by the Minnesota Historical Society, a comprehensive history of public health in Minnesota; and he has contributed numerous articles and book reviews to this quarterly.

A poetical version of the founding of Fort Beauharnois is contributed to this issue by Miss Nell Mabey of Frontenac. A member of the League of Minnesota Poets, she is represented in its anthology, *Minnesota Skyline* (1944), by a poem on "Lake Pepin." A book of her verse, *Clover Blooms*, appeared in 1938.

An authority on Minnesota's wild-life resources is Dr. W. J. Breckenridge, director of the Minnesota Museum of Natural History on the campus of the University of Minnesota. He is the author of an important book on *Reptiles and Amphibians of Minnesota* (1944), as well as of numerous articles about birds and animals of the North Star State.

Although his background is closely identified with Minnesota and he is a graduate of the University of Minnesota, Mr. Lester N. Recktenwald now resides in New York, where he is engaged as a counseling psychologist and a writer. He is the author of *Hail Tomorrow* (Boston, 1944), and he has contributed articles to several journals of education and psychology. His present article is drawn from a longer narrative dealing with the experiences of his parents and grandparents on the Minnesota frontier.

As varied in their professional activities as the subjects of the books they write about are the men and women represented by book reviews in this issue. They include Margaret Culkin Banning, popular Duluth author; Frank P. Donovan, special representative of the Minneapolis and St. Louis Railway Company; Dr. James Eckman of the Mayo Clinic's section on publications; Professor George B. Engberg of the history faculty in the University of Cincinnati; Lois M. Fawcett, reference librarian on the society's staff; Norman A. Geske, curator of the Walker Art Center in Minneapolis; Bertha L. Heilbron, editor of this magazine; Professor Werner Levi of the department of political science in the University of Minnesota; Margaret Snyder of the University of Virginia extension division; and Roy Swanson, librarian of the *St. Paul Dispatch-Pioneer Press*.



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