

The Development of Academic Freedom in the United States. By RICHARD HOFSTADTER and WALTER P. METZGER. (New York, Columbia University Press, 1955. xvi, 527 p. \$5.50.)

Reviewed by Joseph F. Wall

THIS SUBSTANTIAL WORK deals with the long history of academic man and his search for freedom in both its personal and professional aspects. The title is somewhat of an understatement as to the actual contents, for Part I, "The Age of the College," brilliantly written with admirable conciseness by Mr. Hofstadter, develops the story from its beginnings in the medieval universities up to the American sectarian colleges of the pre-Civil War era. Mr. Hofstadter's obvious fascination with his subject often leads him into interesting bypaths of discussion—the philosophical arguments so vigorously debated in the so-called "Age of Faith," student life at seventeenth-century Harvard, and the stifling effect that slavery had upon the intellectual life of the South. But always these issues are related to the primary problem of academic freedom.

A major part of the problem, as is made abundantly clear, was the slow development of academic freedom as a definite concept. Neither the medieval scholar, who could live quite happily and even find room for considerable movement within the accepted framework of an authoritative system of faith, nor the college professor in the ante-bellum South, who had no desire to challenge the "peculiar institution," felt that he was deprived of freedom. Each had, "in short, subjective freedom," writes Mr. Hofstadter. "But there is no condition more dangerous to a community than subjective freedom of this kind without objective freedom." Mr. Hofstadter is forced to conclude that academic freedom as a positive force did not appear in America before the Civil War.

Mr. Metzger, in Part 2, "The Age of the

University," shows how this concept developed. He attributes it primarily to two forces, both European in origin—Darwinian science and the influence of the German universities with their emphasis upon *Lehrfreiheit* and *Lernfreiheit*. This explanation is perhaps an oversimplification, and Mr. Metzger could have given more attention to the negative as well as the positive effect that these forces had upon intellectual freedom in America. Darwinism when transferred from the natural sciences to the social sciences was not an unmixed blessing to academic thought in the United States, as Mr. Metzger's coauthor has shown in an earlier study. And along with *Lehrfreiheit* came a rigidity of Germanic scholarship that produced its own brand of restrictive pedantry.

With commendable objectivity, Mr. Metzger deals with the problem of academic freedom and big business. While exposing the dangers that lie in private philanthropy, he correctly points out that no simple generalization can be made indicating that the privately endowed university sold its free soul to the Robber Barons. Many factors other than the conservatism of the wealthy patron must be taken into account in dealing with cases involving academic freedom. The role of the university president, the personality and reputation of the professor involved, even the geographic location of the university could and did affect the outcome. It might be pointed out, however, that both Mr. Metzger and Mr. Hofstadter generalize somewhat in dealing with the problem of academic freedom in the "old-time" sectarian colleges. While admitting that the problem is quite different and not wishing to defend the past record of sectarianism, this reviewer believes that many of the factors mentioned above could also be applied in cases which arose in the privately endowed college that had rendered itself unto God rather than unto mammon.

The authors in their preface state as their purpose the writing of "an analytical history, not a full-throated polemic for academic freedom." They have succeeded admirably. The result is a fascinating and thoroughly documented

MR. WALL is chairman of the department of history in Grinnell College at Grinnell, Iowa.

study of great value not only for the student of American intellectual history, but for every person who accepts the thesis that "the academic freedom we still possess is one of the remarkable achievements of man."

TRADERS' ACCOUNTS

Men and Trade on the Northwest Frontier, as Shown by the Fort Owen Ledger (Montana State University, *Studies*, vol. 2). Edited with an introduction by GEORGE F. WEISEL. (Missoula, Montana State University, 1955. xxxix, 291 p. Illustrations, maps. \$5.00.)

Reviewed by Merrill G. Burlingame

IN RECOVERING the Fort Owen Ledger from the dread limbo of historical source material—the barn loft—and ingeniously editing it, George Weisel has placed students of Western history in his debt. The ledger describes trade at Fort Owen in western Montana's Bitterroot Valley under John Owen from 1850 to 1860 and under Washington J. McCormick to 1880. Described as "the earliest known account book kept by a free trader in the Rocky Mountain Northwest," this listing of articles and notations of quantity and prices provide a valuable record.

Real meaning is given to the accounts by including brief biographical sketches painstakingly gathered from many sources—the first such sketches to be compiled for many of those mentioned. These biographies illuminate a number of dark corners in northern Rocky Mountain history. A number of Iroquois Indians and their descendants traded at the fort. The effect of the Stevens expedition and the Mullan Road is noted. Side lights on the discovery of gold appear. For instance, the Fort Owen Ledger seems to discredit the often-repeated but vague claim that John Silverthorne was the first successful miner in the area.

The book will be a well-thumbed reference for years because in it many pioneering settlers who have been only names emerge in clearer view—men like Emmanuel Martin, Charles Lamoose, George Monteur, and Samuel Caldwell. Others better known, such as John M. Jacobs,

Thomas Harris, Caleb Irvine, and Dr. Richard H. Lansdale, have correspondingly fuller treatment. A description of the organizations active in the area assists in giving a broader base to the book and the biographical sketches.

A number of drawings by Gustavus Sohon, several maps, sketches of the fort, and illustrations from the ledger, together with a skillful printing job make the book attractive as well as useful.

AMERICA LETTERS

Land of Their Choice: The Immigrants Write Home. Edited by THEODORE C. BLEGEN. (Minneapolis, The University of Minnesota Press, 1955. xix, 463 p. \$5.75.)

Reviewed by Kenneth Bjork

SINCE this book consists almost wholly of letters written by Norwegian immigrants in America to friends and relatives in the homeland, it is somewhat unique. These documents—"America letters" they are called—were written at places reaching in space from New York State to California, from southern Texas to western Minnesota, and they cover a span of time from 1824 to 1869. They were translated from the original Norwegian into acceptable English by a small army of scholars, and they were collected, engineered through the various stages of "production," and edited with great skill by Dr. Blegen, former director of the Minnesota Historical Society and present dean of the graduate school in the University of Minnesota as well as managing editor of the Norwegian-American Historical Association's publications. The letters have been given an ideal setting in an introductory chapter entitled "The Immigrant Image of America." *Land of Their Choice* is thus a worthy companion to Dean Blegen's two-volume study of *Norwegian Migration to America*, a work based very largely on the America letters which brought him close to what he calls the "grass roots" of the migration story.

As might be expected of such a book, it contains discussions of many things—European

MR. BURLINGAME is a member of the history faculty in Montana State College at Bozeman.

MR. BJORK is professor of history in St. Olaf College, Northfield. His writings include a volume on Norwegian Engineers in America (1947).

backgrounds, the Atlantic crossing, the water and overland journey to the Middle West, first impressions of the New World, a bewildering assortment of frontier experiences, and a debate over the advantages and disadvantages of emigration. It tells, too, of the gold rush to California and the Pennsylvania utopia called Oleana, of bitter disappointments and dreams come true, of simple pleasures and deepest grief, of humdrum daily tasks and carefully laid plans for eternity. The book, in thus giving us a picture of America in mid-passage and providing insights into the minds of those who made the Atlantic crossing, is well worth its price, and it will, I think, prove rewarding to all who are interested in large-scale movements of people.

The breakup of an old rural society and an improved technology in production and transportation played important parts in the history of emigration. Equally significant was a growth in population beyond the capacity of the homeland to absorb it. To people who found it increasingly difficult on the one hand to live in the valleys of their ancestors, and increasingly easy on the other to get to near-by seaports and cross the Atlantic, free land and seemingly unlimited economic opportunity in America were tempting lures indeed. The letters in this volume—and this is the chief shortcoming of America letters—tell next to nothing about the impersonal forces that pushed the Norwegians away from their rocky homeland, but they do describe over and over again the lush qualities of New-World soil which, together with job possibilities, comprised the major “pull” in the migration story.

But that is not the end of the narrative, for permeating the whole of migration—and thus also this volume—were protests against social conditions in the homeland and a belief in a richer life for men and women in America. The emigrants objected to many things in the old world—among them the lack of complete political democracy and the dominant role of officials and clergymen—and they expressed discontent with a host of other real or imagined inequalities. There is much in these letters to prove that emigration was to a considerable extent a search for freedom—individual and collective—and that it should not be separated by the scholar from the social and political reforms of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. A small society of Norwegians in Chi-

cago wrote from the depths of their beings when they declared in 1848: “Here it is not asked, what or who was your father, but the question is, what are you? . . . Freedom is here an element which is drawn in, as it were, with mother milk, and seems as essential to every citizen of the United States as the air he breathes. It is part of his life, which cannot be compromised nor surrendered, and which is cherished and defended as life itself.”

The emigrants, no less than their countrymen who remained at home, viewed religion as the prime mover in life, and their faith provided many of the overtones and undertones found in this volume. There was revulsion as well as attraction, however, in their relation to the church of their fathers and in their attitude toward men of the cloth. The immigrants apparently wanted the substance of the churchly tradition without some of its social and cultural accretions. There is enough in this volume to indicate the folly of assuming that later theological conflicts among the Norwegian Americans were wholly or even essentially the product of philosophical disagreement. It is evident that such forces were long building up in Europe, and to a lesser degree in America; these, when released on the frontier, tossed farmer and pastor about in the resulting gales of controversy—and ultimately produced a church that was American in most of its external and many of its internal forms, though retaining the essence of its original teachings.

Most Minnesota readers will have a special interest in the last two chapters of the book—“The Beautiful Land,” which is a description of life in northern Iowa based on the highly personal and, to this reviewer, somewhat over-rated letters of Gro Svendsen, a pioneer mother; and “The Glorious New Scandinavia,” which takes the story to Minnesota in the late 1850s and the 1860s. “My rifle is always loaded,” one newcomer wrote from Dodge County in 1862; he was referring, of course, to the Indian danger that was so frightfully real to the people of the Minnesota Valley, not least to the Scandinavians who suffered losses with the others. But the story is essentially one of the good earth and its many uses, of the new life that was to be lived in surroundings somewhat strange but never wholly foreign.

The immigrants were no pariahs nibbling at the crumbs of life; they were people who had

caught a glimpse of a brighter future, and were determined to have it. They had helped to bring a new "kingdom" into being and now had need of the voice of caution and restraint. This was supplied by men like Paul Hjelm-Hansen, who among other things promoted immigration into western Minnesota. His farewell address at Alexandria in September, 1869, brings *Land of Their Choice* to a close. "Be agreed among yourselves," he told the Swedes, Danes, and Norwegians who were present, to "help and support one another. As the bearers of peace and harmony you must love one another, and he who loves goes with God, for God is love. But do not misunderstand me: I do not wish to say that the Scandinavians should form a power all to themselves or be a state within a state.

On the contrary, I believe that it is the sacred duty of the emigrants who wish to make this country their future home and who have taken the oath of allegiance to this society, to become united and assimilated with the native population of the country . . . to learn the English language and to familiarize themselves with and uphold the spirit and institutions of the Republic. The sooner this comes about, the better."

The University of Minnesota Press is to be congratulated on the book's particularly pleasing typography, as well as for publishing what will certainly prove to be a significant collection of documents. The volume has been carefully indexed.

DUTCH MIGRATION

Netherlanders in America: Dutch Immigration to the United States and Canada, 1789-1950.

By HENRY S. LUCAS. (Ann Arbor, The University of Michigan Press, 1955. xix, 744 p. Illustrations, maps. \$10.00.)

Reviewed by Carlton C. Qualey

THIS VOLUME by a distinguished medieval historian is a tribute to the author's versatility. It is clearly a labor of love, carried on over a long period of time and now brought to an impressive conclusion. The book is an encyclopedic survey of Dutch migration to the United States

and Canada in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries, interlarded with interpretive paragraphs and observations, and based on exhaustive examination of almost all available sources. The "almost" qualification is occasioned by the fact that the author has not used the manuscript census schedules for the federal censuses since 1850, available in the National Archives and indispensable for an accurate picture of the distribution of any national group in the United States. The author uses the printed census statistics which, until 1930, indicated only the foreign born and not those born in the United State of foreign-born parents. To his voluminous research in letters, newspapers, documents, and printed materials, the author has added visits to a great number of the settlements about which he writes.

After an introductory chapter on earlier Dutch immigration to America, the volume deals with the background of the nineteenth-century migration, especially with the strong religious factors. There follow detailed chapters on the Michigan settlements founded by Albertus C. Van Raalte, the Iowa colony started by Hendrik P. Scholte, and other widely spread colonies in all parts of the United States and in Canada. The narrative proceeds from settlement to settlement, and detailed accounts are given of persons, places, and pioneering experiences. The greatest concentrations of the Dutch were in the Middle West.

The author presents a description of several Protestant Dutch settlements in Minnesota (p. 361-376) and a brief paragraph on Catholic Dutch settlement in the state (p. 447). Of special interest in these sections are the accounts of Dutch capital investment in Minnesota railroads, and of the real-estate promotions by Theodore Koch of colonies in Kandiyohi, Chipewewa, and Renville counties in 1885 and later. The Dutch did not go to Minnesota in large numbers. Professor Lucas indicates several new sources of information on Hollanders in Minnesota in his chapter notes.

After the survey of settlements, the author in Chapter 9 gives a brief summary of the entire movement of Dutch to the United States and Canada, a section that might profitably be read before other parts of the book. In many ways the most interesting portions of the book are to be found in the concluding chapters dealing with conditions of emigrant travel to

MR. QUALEY is professor of American history in Carleton College at Northfield.

America and the reception in American ports, the development of Reformed church groups on this side of the Atlantic, the Dutch-American newspapers, the early devotion to the Democratic party and the later partial shift to Republicanism, the problems involved in the change from the Dutch to the English language, Dutch schools and colleges in America, Dutch immigrant literature, and the general character of Dutch-Americans.

A statistical appendix, extensive chapter notes, and an index of names conclude the volume. Several regional settlement maps are included, but there is no single map of the United States and Canada showing the distribution of the Dutch settlements. The volume comes close to being the definitive work on Dutch migration to America since the Colonial period, and Professor Lucas deserves the thanks not only of his own immigrant group but of American historians generally.

BORDER COUNTRY

Whoop-Up Country: The Canadian-American West, 1865-1885. By PAUL F. SHARP. (Minneapolis, University of Minnesota Press, 1955. xiii, 347 p. Illustrations. \$5.00.)

Reviewed by Alvin C. Gluek, Jr.

PROFESSOR Sharp's second book fills many a gap in the history of western Canadian-American relations; but it is not, as its title suggests, a history of the entire Canadian-American West. With the exception of a few chapters, it is primarily devoted to the Whoop-Up Country, a wild and woolly region embracing most of Montana and much of Canada's old North West Territory.

Mr. Sharp has written a dramatic and colorful history of that area. Utilizing newspapers, travelers' accounts, and various manuscript collections, he has fashioned a multi-paneled portrait of the northern Great Plains and their inhabitants. Here are the wolfers and the whisky traders from Montana whose invasion of Canada helped to bring about the formation of the

North West Mounted Police; and here, too, are the merchants of Fort Benton upon whom the Mounties were later to depend for their basic supplies. Indeed, life in frontier Montana and the North West Territory is presented in full round: the society and economy of Forts Benton and McLeod; life on the Whoop-Up Trail; the sheriffs — and the bad men — of Choteau County; the cattlemen and the sheepmen; and, of course, the Sioux and Blackfoot Indians. The result is a well-balanced narration of the Whoop-Up Country's history from 1865 to 1885.

Of greatest interest to this reviewer was the degree of international intimacy disclosed in *Whoop-Up Country*. In the past, this border relationship, so significant in the history of both the Canadian and the American West, either has been ignored or, at best, slightly and temptingly revealed. Professor Sharp confirms the known relationship between the Cypress Hills massacre and the establishment of the North West Mounted Police; but at the same time, he demonstrates that the "massacre" was perpetrated by an "international brigade" composed of Canadians and Americans alike, typical frontiersmen who took the law into their own hands and fell, more by accident than design, into that fateful fight with the Assiniboin. Two chapters — perhaps the best in the book — are devoted to the diplomacy surrounding Sitting Bull's flight into Canada, where his presence created a sticky problem for both the Canadian and American authorities.

In a final chapter, "Manifest Destiny Looks North," Mr. Sharp examines the expansionist temper of the United States in the late 1860s and the desire of many Minnesotans to acquire Rupert's Land, which was owned by the Hudson's Bay Company. And here he is not on as solid ground as in the Whoop-Up Country. His contention on page 306 that the servants of the Hudson's Bay Company "quietly supported the métis" in the Riel Rebellion is misleading. Louis Riel's highhanded treatment of the company's chief officers at Fort Garry clearly indicates the contrary; and Donald A. Smith was plainly worried over the open hostility shown by the métis toward his company. Far greater support was indirectly given Riel by the American policy of obstructing Canada's military efforts to secure Rupert's Land. And if Minnesota's expansionists failed to awaken the railroad men to the virtues of annexation — a moot

MR. GLUEK, who contributed an article to the Winter, 1955, issue of this magazine, is a member of the history faculty in Michigan State University at East Lansing.

point — men like George L. Baker of the St. Paul and Pacific nevertheless remained intrigued with the possibility of "Americanization." Furthermore, these same expansionists certainly found the American state department receptive to their pleadings, for the United States tried to buy — or secure a settlement for — a part or all of British North America.

But these are minor criticisms. *Whoop-Up Country* is an excellent study of the Canadian-American West. It is, in many ways, a pioneer work on a region that has too long remained unknown to the Western historian.

BOUNDARY PROBLEMS

The Struggle for the Border. By BRUCE HUTCHISON. (New York, Longmans, Green and Co., 1955. x, 500 p. Maps. \$6.00.)

Reviewed by Maude L. Lindquist

BRUCE HUTCHISON is to be congratulated for his expert treatment of a vast body of information and for his success in weaving that factual mass into a well-ordered and sprightly book. Happily, he has also achieved his purpose of providing "a joint account of Americans and Canadians in war and peace, in the contest of exploration, diplomacy and commerce from a Canadian viewpoint." While Mr. Hutchison regards himself as a lay historian who assumes full responsibility for his particular brand of interpretation, he need not apologize. He knows the story of Canada and the United States, and he is keenly aware of the forces of destiny which have shaped these nations into separate sovereignties when by the narrowest margin there might have been bloody wars or successful diplomatic intrigues to change the status of these two happy neighbors. He also recognizes the worth of Canada's Carleton, Macdonald, King, and St. Laurent, and of its explorers like Fraser, Mackenzie, Douglas, and Simpson whose lives seemed dedicated to the conquest of its vastness and to the indissoluble unity of its varied elements. *The Struggle for the Border* deals with the efforts of Canada and its leaders to keep the boundary and to remain a nation in the

face of external courtships and internal strife brought about by the agonies of unification.

To Mr. Hutchison the use of meaningful and descriptive words and catchy phrases obviously poses no problem. Such chapter headings as "The Yankee Horse Traders," "The English Gentleman," or "The Man in Scarlet" are good bait for what inevitably proves to be good reading. His nimble character sketches and personal side lights bring life to the people who march through his story. His own observations and interpretations are well phrased and objective, and they call attention to new viewpoints or excite many thoughtful moments in the game of "what might have been."

Lay readers who are not fortified with some knowledge of the history of Canada and of the United States in all probability will not enjoy the many details which have been inserted to complete the picture of a situation or event, but it is unlikely that Mr. Hutchison meant his book to be popular to that extent. Certainly, to those who are reading in familiar fields, his product will be a refreshing and able summary of the story of America's neighbor to the north. They cannot fail to recognize that, as Mr. Hutchison so ably states, "Considering all its circumstances—the appalling obstacles of its geography and climate, the sparseness and ill-balanced distribution of its people, the clash of its diverse economic zones, above all, its racial split and dual culture—the wonder is not that Canada has matured slowly but that it has survived into manhood. By any measurement it must be judged a successful experiment, carried through against heavy odds."

PICTORIAL HISTORY

Civil War in Pictures. By FLETCHER PRATT. (New York, Henry Holt and Company, 1955. 256 p. Illustrations. \$10.00.)

Reviewed by Francis Paul Prucha, S.J.

THIS BOOK is not the full-scale pictorial account of the Civil War that its title suggests. It is, rather, a survey of the war as presented by two weekly news magazines, *Harper's Weekly* and *Leslie's Illustrated Newspaper*. These publications contained regular accounts of the battles and camp life by reporters in the field, and full pictorial coverage by special artists

MISS LINDQUIST is chairman of the department of history in the Duluth branch of the University of Minnesota.

who recorded many phases of the action. Fletcher Pratt has selected a large number of these pictures (almost three hundred, in fact), and the resulting collection is of interest to all students of the Civil War.

The volume has the fascination of any well-designed picture book. Although there is less variety in style and tone than one might like—for the pictures are all engravings made from the drawings of the artist-reporters—there is plenty of variety in subject matter. There are fine scenes of battlegrounds, intimate sketches of camp life, unusually full attention to naval craft, and a large number of combat scenes. By leafing through the book, one gets the atmosphere of the time and catches some of the spirit of contemporaries who followed the course of the war through the pages of these magazines. The drawings are well reproduced, and the layout of the book is grandly conceived with many full-page spreads of battle and camp scenes.

In general, the artists seem to have done an admirable job of reporting the war. Tending to rely in some cases on stereotypes instead of actual facts (straight lines of soldiers advancing shoulder to shoulder appear again and again), they nevertheless aided readers of the magazines immeasurably in following the war and they help us today to complement the written reports. Fletcher Pratt is careful to note in his accompanying text many of the factual errors into which the artist or their copyists have fallen.

The text of the book, however, is a good deal less satisfying than the pictures. It consists of extracts from *Harper's* and *Leslie's* mixed with comments by the author. The organization is far from clear. Although the pictures are not dated and no reference is given to the issues in which they were printed, they have apparently been arranged chronologically as they appeared. This results in some amazingly abrupt transitions—for instance, from a description of a Florida salt factory, to wounded soldiers passing the unfinished Capitol dome, to the removal of McClellan. There are no chapters nor other divisions of any kind in the 256 pages of the book. Unfortunately, the written text is not al-

ways clearly connected with specific pictures, and the reader is frequently puzzled, if not irritated. The author's style is clear, but in spots perhaps a bit too blunt.

It is not the intention of the author to present a series of pictures nor a commentary complete enough to give an uninformed reader a coherent view of the war. Indeed, in touching upon many events, the writer assumes a considerable knowledge of details of the Civil War on the part of the reader. Aside from the general appeal of the pictures, the book will be of greatest interest to students of the war who may garner new bits of information from it and find some stimulation in the facts and conclusions presented.

EXECUTIVE PROFILE

The Big Business Executive: The Factors That Made Him, 1900-1950. By MABEL NEWCOMER. (New York, Columbia University Press, 1955. xii, 164 p. \$4.00.)

Reviewed by Edwin H. Lewis

IT IS a curious paradox that in a period in which the heads of our large domestic corporations exercise such great influence, so little is known about them as a group. Biographies have been written of many of the early leaders and founders of "big business" and of some of the "corporate speculators and plungers" who followed them, but very little attention has been given to the training, experience, and family backgrounds of those who have more recently occupied top management positions, and little is known about how they rose to the top. Dr. Newcomer, who is professor of economics in Vassar College, has studied three generations of business executives in order to determine what types of individuals usually sit at the president's desk and at the head of the directors' table as chairman of the board.

The heart of the study is an analysis of the backgrounds of persons who have held the two top corporate offices in the largest railroads, public utilities, industrial, and mercantile corporations (financial corporations were excluded) for each of three periods within the fifty-year

MR. PRUCHA, who received the society's Solon J. Buck Award for the best article published in its quarterly in 1964, is a Jesuit scholastic studying at St. Marys, Kansas.

MR. LEWIS is professor of economics and marketing in the University of Minnesota.

span. The number of individuals included ranges from 284 in the earliest period to 863 in the most recent period. The author attempted to secure for each person in the sample information covering family status, education, political and religious affiliations, and work experience, together with certain other data pertinent to his selection for high corporate office—some twenty-five items of information in all. This has been a tremendous undertaking, but the work was so carefully planned and so painstakingly carried out that, to quote the author, "It has been possible to obtain better than 95 per cent returns for the items that were regarded as most important."

The book is packed with data and summaries resulting from the study, which in the composite presents a fascinating profile of the present-day executive compared with his counterpart of twenty-five and fifty years ago. The data on age distribution, for example, do not support the common belief that top executives fall prey to fatal diseases at a relatively early age as the result of overwork and worry. Therefore, the author concludes, "It seems probable that those who live long enough to reach the top are a comparatively hardy group."

Nearly two-thirds of the 1950 group are the sons (there were no women top executives in the companies studied) of men who were responsible for the operation of some type of business, frequently a small one. Also, two-thirds of the younger members of this group are college graduates, and nearly one-third of these did graduate work. The self-made executive whose formal education did not go beyond grade school, is now a rarity.

Family wealth is still an asset to the aspiring executive, but men from families with small incomes now have a better chance of rising to the top, provided they can secure the necessary education. Wealth is a greater asset in the small companies than in the large ones. Since the great majority of officers own less than one per cent of their company's stock, the proportion of those who gained office through investment has declined. Better than half of those in the present group of top executives have worked up to their position.

Dr. Newcomer feels that the typical top executive falls somewhat short of the "ideal" executive, as perhaps best portrayed by the type of men heading the faster-growing companies. The

latter are younger, and have broader business and educational backgrounds.

The most significant of the several trends is that toward professionalization of corporate leadership. This is indicated by the following developments: educational requirements are increasing; the man of ability, regardless of his social background now has a better chance of attaining the top rung; an executive's rise is usually based on a long period of apprenticeship; and a code of ethics which recognizes the public interest as an increasingly dominant force. We are indebted to Dr. Newcomer for this astute and carefully contrived analysis of the business professional.

INDUSTRIAL EVOLUTION

Brand of the Tartan: The 3M Story. By VIRGINIA HUCK. (New York, Appleton-Century-Crofts, Inc., 1955. xii, 260 p. Illustrations. \$3.50.)

Reviewed by Ralph W. Hidy

IN A NARRATIVE STYLE as sprightly as the title of her book, Miss Huck has told the story of the Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company from its origin to the end of 1954. Employing straightforward, lucid exposition, she has traced the development of the firm from its foundation on the mistaken idea, given a corporate form in 1901, that "corundum" from the North Shore of Lake Superior would make an excellent sandpaper to the present status of the firm as a multimillion dollar corporation. The enterprise was kept alive by a large investment on the part of a friend of the owner-managers while salesmen slowly built a market for an abrasive that had difficulty competing with a similar item manufactured by other companies. Improvement in the initial product came, as it did to most fabricating firms at that time, through ideas and demands transmitted from purchasers through salesmen to the home office. By 1914 the executives of 3M had finally achieved a commercially sound abrasive.

Thereafter growth occurred along lines notice-

MR. HIDY is professor of history in New York University. He and Mrs. Hidy collaborated on a *History of Standard Oil Company* (New Jersey) published late in 1955 by Harpers.

able in many firms throughout the economy of the United States. Wars stimulated demand; managers instituted a testing and a research program, purchased patents, expanded operations through mergers and reinvested profits, labored hard to develop markets, and continually used research to create a diversified line of products. One uncommon though not unique policy was the avoidance of highly competitive markets as areas for the development of products. The range of commodities produced may be shown by the divisions set up in an administrative organization in 1948—coated abrasives, roofing granules, adhesives and coatings, color and chemicals, electrical insulation and sound-recording tapes, pressure-sensitive tapes, and reflective sheeting. Today the product lines number forty, and research continues on new uses for such old products as “Scotch” brand adhesive tape and for new products along such lines as plastics, electronics, and chemicals.

Miss Huck has wisely emphasized the importance of individuals in the history of the company. Founders Henry S. Bryan, J. Danley Budd, H. W. Cable, John Dwan, and William H. McGonagle receive their just share of attention, but the executives who saved the firm from oblivion and raised it to its present eminence get top billing. Edgar B. Ober served as president of 3M for all but three years from 1905 to 1929. Lucius P. Ordway was the financial angel of the company throughout its early years of travail. William L. McKnight took the lead in building markets, in emphasizing uniform quality, and in searching for new products before and after he became the chief executive officer of the corporation. Richard P. Carlton gave explicit direction to the research activities of 3M in the 1920s, co-ordinated research, engineering, and manufacturing, and led the firm as president for the years 1949–53. A. G. Bush, chairman of the executive committee since 1949, rose to that position through being the outstanding salesman in the organization. Herbert P. Buettow, the present president, earned recognition as 3M's top specialist in financial management.

The author wrote a book for semipopular consumption, and she therefore does not cover many points that the student of business and of the performance of the economy generally will raise. There is no attempt to weigh the

relative importance of purchased patents, mergers, research, and reinvested profits in the growth of the firm. Only casually does Miss Huck indicate an awareness that the 3M pattern of growth is common to the history of other successful large American corporations. Price policy is scarcely mentioned and employee relations receive only passing attention. Administrative organization and financial policies, the keys to the success of many large enterprises, remain hazy except at a few points. Statistical series dealing with production, sales, costs, and finances are not even to be found in the appendix. Thoughtful 3M stockholders would certainly welcome more detailed information on the firm, though they are undoubtedly happy with the returns on their investment. Academicians who write textbooks and thus multiply the impact of such studies as *Brand of the Tartan* will be disappointed that the lines of the picture were not drawn more distinctly and exactly.

Of course, not all readers can be completely satisfied with any literary effort. Some will find this book too long and too detailed. Others, as has been suggested, will find it too short and too limited in scope. The truth of the matter is that Miss Huck set out to write a good, middle-sized story of the growth of Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company. In that she has succeeded admirably.

EMPIRE BUILDER

James J. Hill: A Great Life in Brief. By STEWART H. HOLBROOK. (New York, Alfred A. Knopf, 1955. vii, 205 p. \$2.50.)

Reviewed by Muriel E. Hidy

STEWART H. HOLBROOK'S *James J. Hill* is the second volume in the series on *A Great Life in Brief* to be concerned with an American businessman. The publisher states that these biographies “are not intended for specialists” but for “those readers for whom an encyclopedia account is too brief and too dry, a ‘standard’ 500-page biography too esoteric and too detailed.”

MRS. HIDY is an associate of the *Business History Foundation, Inc.*, and an associate editor of the *Journal of Economic History*.

The author traces the career of the railroad-builder, James J. Hill, from his youth in Ontario, Canada, to his death in 1916. After a varied business apprenticeship which started in St. Paul in 1856, Hill, in company with a group of associates, purchased a distressed local railroad in Minnesota in 1879. Also concerned actively in the organization and building of the Canadian Pacific Railway Company, the associates soon successfully operated a south-north line from the Twin Cities to the international boundary. Hill was elected president of the Minnesota company in 1882 and undertook its rapid development east, south, and west. The author follows this expansion, including a detailed story of the discovery of the Great Northern Railway Company's famous Marias Pass. Mr. Holbrook dramatizes the high points of the rivalry of this railroad with competing lines and discusses the brief union of some of Hill's lines in the Northern Securities Company.

Glimpses are caught of many of Hill's business policies. While mention is made of his faith in lower freight rates, his interest in trade with the Orient, and his ventures into mercantile marine activities on the Great Lakes and the Pacific Ocean, more attention is given to Hill's encouragement of land settlement and improved farming methods.

Less space is given to the private life of the volume's central figure. Some reference is made to his homes on Summit Avenue in St. Paul and in New York, to the farm at North Oaks, to his unusual collection of art, to his fishing for salmon in Canada, to his generous philanthropy, to his many honors, and to his family. In general, however, the book emphasizes Hill as a railroad man and "empire builder."

Some of this reviewer's criticism is directed in part to the restrictions placed on the author by the publisher. It is easier to criticize a book than to encompass the multitudinous facets of a rich personality and an active builder like Hill within two hundred pages. Do the "intelligent" adults to whom the book is directed not want more weighing of evidence and analysis than it is possible to give in such short scope? Should a reader be asked to follow the career of a railroad builder without the assistance of even one map? The book is provided with an index and a brief bibliography, although one might question the author's disparaging remarks about the "fawning" Joseph Gilpin Pyle;

all people interested in Hill are indebted to that author's two-volume life of Hill for much accurate information not otherwise available.

The careful reader will come away from Mr. Holbrook's book with a number of questions, and perhaps with some misunderstandings. No quick impression can make clear the corporate relationships of a number of railroads, and there is no careful definition of the "Hill Lines." Making business sound perpetually dramatic deviates somewhat from a portrayal of reality. Nowhere is there any clear indication of business problems such as that of financing a railroad system. Hill's ability in this field merits high praise. The explanation of early returns from sales of land is both misleading as to timing and exaggerated as to amount.

Although Mr. Holbrook, painting with such a broad brush, occasionally gives a misleading picture and obscures reality, the fact remains that he has captured the reader's attention and given a picture of Hill's vigor. The author writes with his accustomed genuine affection and delightful flare in describing the West. To the criticism that he has neither analyzed Hill's problems nor his methods of meeting them, the author could readily answer that he had no intention of doing so. This is popular history with emphasis on the dramatic and colorful; it should whet the thoughtful reader's appetite to know more about the subject.

OLD MAN RIVER

A Treasury of Mississippi River Folklore: Stories, Ballads, Traditions and Folkways of the Mid-American River Country. Edited by B. A. BOTKIN. Foreword by CARL CARMER. (New York, Crown Publishers, Inc., 1955. xx, 620 p. Illustrations. \$5.00.)

Tales of the Mississippi. By RAY SAMUEL, LEONARD V. HUBER, WARREN C. OGDEN. (New York, Hastings House Publishers, 1955. xiii, 240 p. Illustrations. \$7.50.)

Reviewed by Richard M. Dorson

THIS LATEST scrapbook from Mr. Botkin continues his successful hoax on the American reading public. Less than ten per cent of the stories here included are folklore, in the most liberal sense of the term. Mr. Botkin heaps together all kinds of miscellaneous writings about

the Mississippi River and its major tributaries: experiences of raftsmen and pilots, descriptions of various crafts that traversed the river, accounts of river pirates and gamblers, steamboat races and floods, and episodes and songs in which the river or the river country play some part. He jumps about casually in space, time, and source. On one page the reader is in Minnesota and on the next in New Orleans. One sequence of excerpts presents the eighteenth-century story of Evangeline, a Civil War reminiscence of Vicksburg, an outbreak of smallpox in 1837 and of yellow fever in 1878, climaxed by an earthquake in 1811. As usual, Mr. Botkin shows a strong predilection for regional romanticizers, and in this volume he clips copiously from old hands like Harnett T. Kane, Lyle Saxon, and Ben Lucien Burman, and from the ever-flowing *Rivers of America* series. Everything is grist to his mill, from Mark Twain to Richard Bissell, from *Uncle Tom's Cabin* to W. C. Handy's autobiography, from ante-bellum humor in the *Spirit of the Times* to the latest volume of old-timey reminiscences. And all this he calls folklore — and research.

Folklore can be procured only by direct contact with informants through fieldwork, or through the most meticulous use of printed sources. The promise held in the word "folklore" is the revelation of esoteric oral traditions arduously gathered by industrious leg work, to make the contacts, win the confidences, and record the lore. Franklin J. Meine, who spent years amassing rare imprints about the Mississippi, and Julian Lee Rayford, whom he sponsored to travel down the Mississippi and collect word-of-mouth traditions, actually did original and painstaking work. Mr. Botkin chanced on the Meine collection shortly after it was purchased by the University of Illinois, and used its materials. A student of Shields McIlwaine interviewed river captains and roustabouts and gathered data which in his book on Memphis Mr. McIlwaine acknowledges, and Mr. Botkin reprints.

The reason Mr. Botkin can gull the public

and the reviewers is that scarcely a dozen trained folklorists, actually experienced in fieldwork and knowledgeable in the study of American folklore, exist in the United States today. The very selections he makes near the end of his compendium, where he gestures toward "legends," demonstrate his naivete about folklore, for he includes sentimental bits about tragic Indian maidens that circulate only in the pages of local-color romancers and chamber of commerce brochures. When he does turn up an actual folk tale of considerable interest, "The Tragedy of Potts' Hill," where a highwayman murders his returned son unwittingly, the editor fails to distinguish this migratory legend from his mass of historical anecdotes.

What we expect most from folklore — the insights into grass-roots culture and people that Dean Theodore C. Blegen has championed so persuasively — is almost totally lacking here. Mr. Botkin seeks sensational and nostalgic and showy episodes, spread over a vast geographical area of potential book buyers. The way to the truth of folklore and folk history lies in patient, intensive work with relatively small regional units. If Mr. Botkin's treasuries were recognized for what they are — scissors and paste albums whose disorderly contents vary from dull and trivial to absorbing — they could serve students of American civilization. The present tome offers many leads and suggestions for serious investigations of Mississippi Valley folk culture and social history.

By contrast, *Tales of the Mississippi* deals more readably and coherently with the same majestic theme. This work is a result of the combined efforts of two newspaper editors of the New Orleans *Times-Picayune* and the owner of a fine collection of illustrated scenes about the Mississippi, Leonard V. Huber. From their weekly newspaper series, "Tales of the Great River," this book evolved. The nineteen "Tales" included cover memorable chapters in the history of the Mississippi, including such high spots missed by Mr. Botkin as the clearing of the bars at the river's mouth by James B. Eads, and the dreadful series of steamboat explosions that shook the river between 1835 and 1865. The authors present some river folklore that escaped Mr. Botkin, such as the belief that any ship whose name began with M was a hoodoo vessel. They draw from printed sources and oral recollections, but their work

MR. DORSON has published several collections of folk tales and he is review editor of the *Journal of American Folklore*. He is a member of the history faculty in Michigan State University at East Lansing.

remains Sunday journalism, marred by such crude anachronisms as labeling Eads an "egg-head." Two hundred and thirty-two photographs, prints, and drawings make the Mississippi, its craft, and its people visually alive. New Orleans and the lower river receive the chief attention. These two patchy volumes make us hope for the kind of book about the Mississippi that Paul Horgan has written for the Rio Grande.

STATE POLITICS

Adventures in Politics: We Go to the Legislature. By RICHARD L. NEUBERGER. (New York, Oxford University Press, 1954. xi, 210 p. Illustrations. \$3.50.)

Reviewed by Arthur Naftalin

IN THIS BOOK an unusually perceptive politician gives a candid account of the experiences he and his wife have had in Oregon state politics. Both were elected to the state legislature, and, working as a team, have made a smashing success by employing old-fashioned candor and common sense as political weapons. Their joint career was capped in 1954 by Mr. Neuberger's election to the United States Senate.

Adventures in Politics is more than a personal memoir, although it is worth reading on that account alone. It not only vividly describes the Neuberger's political struggles against reaction, special interest, and ignorance, but it also analyzes the ills of state government, offering convincing testimony to the well-known fact that such governments have, in recent decades, deteriorated at an alarming rate. This condition Mr. Neuberger attributes to the fact that states operate with "stone-age tools," such as low salaries for legislators, outmoded and unrepresentative apportionments, and obsolescent state constitutions. He believes that the basic need is for more responsible and more representative legislatures which would be freed from the domination of special interests and would afford a wider competition for constructive ideas.

MR. NAFTALIN is on leave from the University of Minnesota political science department while serving as Minnesota's commissioner of administration.

This is not a book of rancor or bitterness. Mr. Neuberger treats the ills in government and defines their historic causes without losing perspective or abandoning faith in the democratic process. The outlook is, in fact, optimistic, because the Neuberger's believe in the basic integrity and idealism of the American people. That is why they place strong emphasis on attracting young folks to politics. Perhaps the most meaningful chapters are those dealing with practical politics and explaining how the "amateur" politician can make his efforts effective.

One wonders whether the Neuberger's joint career may be symptomatic of the rise of a new and enriching element in American political life. They obviously brought to Oregon politics a deeper and wider perspective than one ordinarily finds among political partisans, and the appearance of *Adventures in Politics* suggests the possibility that their approach may receive an ever-widening application.

COMPANY HISTORY

Otter Tail Power Company, from its Origin through 1954. By THOMAS C. WRIGHT. (Fergus Falls, 1955. 96 p. Portrait.)

Reviewed by James W. Clark

HERE IS a chronicle of the origin, growth, and maturity of a substantial Minnesota business enterprise. It is written by the chairman of the board of that enterprise who, though far from aged, has been a participant in its growth through most of its more important years.

The author's father, Vernon Wright, in the later years of the nineteenth century became convinced and succeeded in convincing a handful of his neighbors, that the sale of electricity for power and light in the Fergus Falls area could be profitable. He abandoned his profession of architecture and his early home in Boston to prove that he was right. From 1882 until his death in 1938, the elder Wright dedicated his considerable talents to the creation and operation of the Otter Tail Power Company. When he died, he left it in the well-trained hands of his two sons, Thomas and Cyrus, and their associates. By 1938, his company had

MR. CLARK is commissioner of the Minnesota department of business development.

established itself as an important economic element in Minnesota and North and South Dakota. In subsequent years, it has solidified its position in that area—an area not much, if any, smaller than all the New England states.

The author, Thomas C. Wright, apparently feels, and with cause, pride in his father and that which his father wrought. Floods, droughts, sleet storms, depressions, government regulations, incompetence, and other obstacles to profits and dividends brought repeated threats but never defeat. The sturdy persistence, conservatism, and integrity of the Yankee founders won over difficulties that wrecked many competitors.

While this work is good reading and a worthy record, it would have been still better if the author had included more of the personal and episodic, and less on the many issues of securities. Financing apparently has been the author's responsibility. The reviewer's guess is that Mr. Wright, his father, his brother, and their associates had more drama in their business lives than is implied in the chronicling of their numerous financial operations.

MOVING WESTWARD

Three Frontiers. By ALICE DAY PRATT. (New York, Vantage Press, Inc., 1955. xi, 132 p. \$2.75.)

Reviewed by John R. Bengtson

WHILE the title of this volume might suggest that the reader is to be given a rather comprehensive view of three frontier communities, the author somewhat narrowly confines herself to an account of certain of her personal experiences. But, within the limitations that she imposes on her writing, one will find an excellent description of certain aspects of frontier life.

Shortly after the Civil War, Lieutenant Colonel William McLain Pratt and his bride left the East and settled in the little town of Mankato. It was in this Minnesota community that the author was born and spent her childhood. This was her first frontier. Later, the family

moved to the Black Hills—her second frontier—where she spent her youth. Still later, as an adult, Miss Pratt secured a homestead near Prineville, Oregon. She struggled for eighteen years to maintain this homestead, but was finally driven out by the depression.

Miss Pratt possesses a keen sense of appreciation for all types of natural phenomena. She vividly describes the trees, the icy winds, the charm of the tiny chickens, the cantankerous ponies, as well as the caterpillars and toads. She also describes such things as an attack by grasshoppers that ruined her father's Minnesota crops, and some of the difficulties of farming in a new region.

She apparently chose, however, to exclude any extensive discussion of the emotional, economic, social, and political problems that existed in these frontier communities. This book will appeal especially to those who are primarily interested in nature and in descriptive literature.

STUDENTS of late nineteenth-century political history will be interested in Edward Younger's new work on *John A. Kasson: Politics and Diplomacy from Lincoln to McKinley* (State Historical Society of Iowa, 1955. 430 p.). It depicts the fortunes of a "constructive conservative" from Iowa who was intimately associated with the early success of the Republican party on a national scale. Kasson rose to prominence when he helped Horace Greeley, Carl Schurz, and others write the party platform at the Republican national convention of 1860. The author carries Kasson through a long, active, and interesting career, skillfully analyzing his subject's relations with political currents back home in Iowa as well as in Washington. The tapping of fresh sources and exhaustive research by the author result in a readable narrative. All combine to illuminate the career of an Iowa politician who exerted a continuous and important influence upon the fortunes of his party and the policies of state and national governments during the period of Republican dominance in the nineteenth century. R.W.F.

MIR. BENGTSON received his doctor's degree in history from the State University of Iowa in 1953, and he is now assistant to the newspaper curator on the society's staff.

ITEMS REVIEWED in this and the following section may be consulted in the society's library.

. . . on the HISTORICAL HORIZON

THAT THE frontier thesis acted as "a bicarbonate of soda for emotional and intellectual indigestion" and that it "played an important role in the history of American foreign relations" is the view advanced by William Appleman Williams in a provocative essay on "The Frontier Thesis and American Foreign Policy" appearing in the November issue of the *Pacific Historical Review*. The concept of the frontier advanced by Frederick Jackson Turner and Brooks Adams is regarded by the writer as "one of the dynamic causes" behind the extension of "varying degrees of American sovereignty throughout the world" since the 1890s. "Taken together," he writes, "the ideas of Turner and Adams supplied American empire builders with an overview and explanation of the world, and a reasonably specific program of action from 1893 to 1953." The author goes on to analyze and compare the theses advanced by Turner and Adams and to indicate their influence on the policies of such men as Theodore Roosevelt, John Hay, Woodrow Wilson, Henry Cabot Lodge, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Harry S. Truman. He concludes that "it began to appear, after 1952, that Turner and Adams had met their match in Einstein and Oppenheimer" and that the theory of relativity "seemed likely to antique" the frontier thesis. "For the frontier," he comments, "was now on the rim of hell, and the inferno was radioactive."

"TO DISCUSS the rich heritage of the great American Middle West" and participate in a Midwest Heritage Conference, a group of distinguished historians will assemble at Coe College in Cedar Rapids, Iowa, from April 5 to 7. Among the speakers who will take part in the program are R. A. Billington of Northwestern University, John D. Hicks of the University of California, Arthur Bestor and John T. Flanagan of the University of Illinois, Paul Sharp of the University of Wisconsin, and Walter Johnson of the University of Chicago. Included in the program is a tour of the Amana Colonies. Information about the conference may be obtained from Professor John J. Murray of Coe College.

A POSSIBLE solution to the mystery of what happened to La Salle's "Griffin" is suggested by George R. Fox in an article appearing in the winter issue of *The Beaver* under the title "Was This La Salle's 'Griffin'?" The author, a historian and archaeologist, over a period of seven-

teen years has endeavored to indentify a wreck discovered in 1937 on the shores of Manitoulin Island in Lake Michigan. He states that "a number of clues from the wreck seem to substantiate the theory that the timbers are from La Salle's *Griffin*." He feels that the wreck can be dated approximately and that the type of ship can be established from such construction features as iron pegs and screws, the grounding keel, the type of iron used, and the presence of lead caulking in the timbers. After surveying available evidence dealing with the wreck, the writer suggests the possibility that an investigation of the waters near the spot where the timbers were found "could prove or disprove that this wreck is the *Griffin*."

TO SETTLE questions that have been raised about Marquette's status as a priest, Ernest J. Burrus contributes to the October number of the *Catholic Historical Review* an informative examination of "Father Jacques Marquette, S.J.: His Priesthood in the Light of Jesuit Roman Archives." The author explains the nature of records in the archives at Rome that touch on Marquette's activities and presents evidence to show that he was ordained in France on March 7, 1666. "In the light of the abundant and unanimous testimony of official records," Mr. Burrus concludes, "the priesthood of Father Jacques Marquette cannot reasonably be called into question."

AMONG THE "Unpublished Travel Narratives on the Early Midwest, 1720-1850" listed by Robert R. Hubach in the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review* for December are the Long Journals owned since 1860 by the Minnesota Historical Society. If this example is typical of the entire compilation, it is fortunate that Mr. Hubach looks upon his work as "A Preliminary Bibliography." First, and most serious, is his erroneous crediting of the four manuscript volumes to the University of Minnesota library. Second is his description of the 1817 journal as volume 2 of the set. Garbled too is his bibliographical data about the earlier journal's first publication in 1860 and its later reprinting, both of which should have been identified with the *Minnesota Historical Collections*. Personal investigations of the holdings of the Minnesota Historical Society and other institutions represented in the present list doubtless would save Mr. Hubach from similar pitfalls if and when his bibliography attains final form.

A LETTER written to the secretary of war by Stephen H. Long on March 15, 1817, in which he sets forth the advantages of "Exploration by Steamboat" has been edited by Richard G. Wood and published in the *British Journal of Transport History* for November. The original letter is in the National Archives. Long's "idea evidently found favour with the War Department," writes Mr. Wood, for shortly after his letter was written the explorer was sent to Pittsburgh, where he built the "Western Engineer." In this "fantastic vessel," Long and a party of scientists ascended the Mississippi and the Missouri as far as Council Bluffs.

THAT the Midewiwin or Grand Medicine Lodge of the Chippewa still flourishes in Minnesota is brought out by Fred K. Blessing in two articles appearing in the *Minneapolis Star* of December 20 and 21. In the first, "A Closeup of the Grand Medicine Lodge," the author describes the present-day operation of the religious organization and gives something of its history. In the second, "How Medicine Lodge Adds a Member," he outlines the steps in today's initiation ceremonies and tells how they compare with older procedures.

IN THE December issue of the *Classical Journal*, Walter R. Agard examines "Classics on the Midwest Frontier," and succeeds in showing that the past of Greece and Rome influenced many facets of pioneer life. Among the tangible results of that influence, Mr. Agard points out, are the classical place names that dot the maps of twelve Midwest states, and the "pioneer-period buildings with the fine proportions and restful dignity of Greek temples" to be found in many of its cities and villages. He allots more space, however, to the teaching of Greek and Latin in the pioneer colleges of the Midwest, and the evidences of classical culture to be found in the early literature of the area. The writer notes also that newspaper editors of the region often drew upon the classics, citing as one example "James M. Goodhue, product of a classical education at Amherst College, who founded the *Minnesota Pioneer*."

THE FIRST of a projected series of reprints of historical works dealing with the Upper Midwest has been published by Harlow Ross of Minneapolis. It is Doane Robinson's *History of the Dakota or Sioux Indians*, long out of print. The second volume, which is scheduled for publication on March 11, will be a facsimile of the 1781 edition of Jonathan Carver's *Travels Through the Interior Parts of North America*,

complete with maps. The volumes, priced at \$8.75 each, may be obtained from Mr. Ross, 328 South Sixth Street, Minneapolis.

A FORMER superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society and present member of its executive council, Dean Theodore C. Blegen of the University of Minnesota graduate school, describes some of his "Adventures in Historical Research" in a charming essay published in the Autumn number of the *Wisconsin Magazine of History*. Most of the adventures recounted stemmed from Dean Blegen's interest in Norwegian migration. In closing, however, he suggests that "there are countless adventures in store for those who engage in . . . searching for historical treasures that can help this State and all our states to understand better their past and present."

IN ONE of a series of pamphlets issued by the Amos Tuck school of business of Dartmouth College, Robert A. Kavesh examines the subject of *Businessmen in Fiction: The Capitalist and Executive in American Novels* (1955. 12 p.). After reading more than a hundred novels, the author concluded that there is an "almost unanimous antagonism of novelists toward business" as well as a "lack of variety in the fictional characterizations of businessmen." Some of the reasons for this antagonism are outlined by Mr. Kavesh under the headings "Concentrated Power," "The Babbitt Image," and "Changes in Economic Life."

THE ROOTS of "Sears, Roebuck and Company, The World's Biggest General Store," are traced to Minnesota in one of the twenty stories included in Tom Mahoney's book on *The Great Merchants* (New York, 1955. 340 p.). The author opens this chapter in American business history with a brief account of Richard Sears' boyhood at Stewartville and his first venture in the mail order business at North Redwood near Redwood Falls on the Minneapolis and St. Louis Railroad, where he was employed as agent. Of Midwest interest also is Mr. Mahoney's sketch of "The Hudson's Bay Company: A Venerable Enterprise Reborn."

THE NOTABLE career of Harry A. Bullis receives attention in a recently published volume by William H. Clark and James H. S. Moynahan entitled *Famous Leaders of Industry* (Boston, 1955. 249 p.). Mr. Bullis is the only Minnesotan to be included in this series of eighteen word portraits of present-day Americans "who have reached top positions in various fields of

industry." The brief sketch of Mr. Bullis deals largely with his long association with General Mills.

THE November number of *The Palimpsest* is devoted to a review of the varied career of "Ralph Budd: Railroad Entrepreneur" by Richard C. Overton. Fascinating high lights in the life of this twentieth-century empire builder are presented by the author, who devotes sections to Mr. Budd's boyhood and education, his early work with the Chicago Great Western and other railroads of the Midwest, his meeting with James J. Hill and his subsequent association with the Great Northern Railroad Company, of which he became president in 1919, and his later presidency of the Chicago, Burlington and Quincy. The latter, which was marked by two major firsts—the inauguration of streamlined Diesel-electric locomotives in 1934 and the introduction of dome cars on the Twin City Zephyrs in 1945—is treated in some detail. Information on Mr. Budd's work as transportation commissioner during World War II and as head of the Chicago Transit Authority from 1949 to 1954 is also included.

MANY ASPECTS of man's use and need for water as well as some of the problems created by it are treated in a volume on *Water* published by the United States department of agriculture as its Yearbook for 1955 (Washington, 1955. 751 p.). Of special interest to Minnesotans is a section devoted to a discussion of "Drainage in the Red River Valley of the North" by Walter W. Augustadt in which the problems of drainage in that area are related to its recurring floods. A second chapter of interest to Minnesota conservationists deals with "Waterfowl and the Potholes of the North Central States" by Thomas A. Schrader. The volume contains a wealth of information on the relationship of water to weather, soil, forests, crops, and wild life, and treats from many points of view such problems as erosion, floods, pollution, and irrigation.

CHANGING ECONOMIC patterns in the agriculture of "The North North-Central Region" of Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan are stressed by Ladd Haystead and Gilbert C. Fite in a recent volume on *The Agricultural Regions of the United States* published by the University of Oklahoma Press (Norman, Oklahoma, 1955. 288 p.). Although the authors supply information on the diversity of farm production in this area, they state that "dairying dominates the agricultural industry of this region" and

they maintain that its "major crop patterns" are "fitted closely to the dairy and livestock industries." They supply a wide range of statistical tables on the area's soils, the number, average size, and value of its farms from 1850 to 1950, the amount of milk sold, and the size and value of major crops produced over the years.

IN THEIR recently published *Jewish Tourist's Guide to the U.S.* (Philadelphia, 1954), Bernard Postal and Lionel Koppman have made an effort to "identify, locate and give an account of the thousands of sites, landmarks, shrines, memorials, public buildings and other places whose story is part of the chronicle of three centuries of Jewish settlement in America." Included is a section of some seven pages relating to Minnesota. After briefly sketching the story of Jewish settlement in the state, the authors list points of special interest for the Jewish tourist in Duluth, Hibbing, Minneapolis, Rochester, St. Paul, Sax, and Virginia.

AS PART 6 of a series on "America's Arts and Skills," a pictorial record of the arts used for generations on "The Fabulous Frontier" is presented in the issue of *Life* for November 28. Illustrated largely in color are modes of frontier transportation like covered wagons, stage coaches, keel boats, steamboats, and locomotives; early agricultural implements; and buildings ranging in type from log cabins to elaborate French-style mansions and the false fronts of a deserted Western mining town. Represented also are trade goods, firearms, and furniture.

SOME ANNIVERSARIES

TO COMMEMORATE the fiftieth anniversary of the province's establishment, the Saskatchewan Golden Jubilee Committee has published an attractive volume by J. F. C. Wright entitled *Saskatchewan: The History of a Province* (1955. 292 p.). Based upon extensive research in published sources, the book, which is popularly written and well illustrated, provides a readable survey of the development of the province, touching on its fur trade, its settlement, its métiis troubles, and the importance of its wheat. A second recent publication of the jubilee committee is a *Guide to the Historic Sites of Saskatchewan* compiled by J. D. Herbert (20 p.). More than a hundred sites are included, and many significant trails, crossings, posts, and other buildings associated with the fur trade and settlement of the area are listed. If a site has been marked, the text of the tablet is reproduced in the booklet.

TO MARK the hundredth anniversary of its founding in 1855, St. Mary's Cathedral Parish of St. Cloud has issued a booklet by William P. Furlan entitled *The Century in Retrospect* (1955. 24 p.). The author deals briefly and readably with the work of Father Francis Pierz, the founding of St. Mary's Parish, the arrival of Benedictine monks and the opening of a parish school in 1856, and the story of the church building. A helpful list of important dates in the history of the parish and the names of its pastors and assistants, together with the dates of their service, is provided in the appendix.

THE CENTENNIAL of St. John's Abbey at Collegeville is noted by Colman J. Barry in a study of "Boniface Wimmer, Pioneer of the American Benedictines" appearing in the *Catholic Historical Review* for October. According to the author, the Benedictines came to Minnesota in 1856 from St. Vincent's Abbey in Pennsylvania in response to "the urgent invitation" of Bishop Joseph Cretin of St. Paul, who wanted help in caring "for the growing number of German Catholics who were immigrating to Minnesota Territory."

THE SEVENTY-FIFTH anniversary of the Minnesota Mutual Life Insurance Company of St. Paul was noted in the roto section of the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* of November 8 under the title "An Era of Growth." By means of brief texts and numerous illustrations, the development of the company is outlined from its founding in 1880 as the Bankers Association of Minnesota to the recent dedication of its new building in St. Paul.

TO COMMEMORATE the golden anniversary of its founding in 1905, the Minnesota Nurses Association has published an attractive booklet by Leila Halverson entitled *50 Years of Service* (1955. 48 p.). The author notes that the first nurses' registry in the United States was that established in St. Paul by Theresa Erickson in 1898. From this small beginning, she chronicles the founding and growth of the present organization, providing brief accounts of significant events in its history year by year.

THE HUNDREDTH anniversary of the founding of St. Luke's Hospital in St. Paul is the occasion for the publication of an article on its history by Carl Hennemann in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* of December 4. Characterizing the institution as a "leader in Northwest medicine," the author outlines its development from

the struggling organization known as Christ Church Hospital and Orphans Home, sketches its financial ups and downs, describes its various buildings, and mentions some of the men and women who have been associated with it over the years.

THAT the St. Anthony Commercial Club is the "oldest organization of its kind in the Upper Midwest" is brought out in an article appearing in the *Minneapolis Star* of November 17 under the title "St. Anthony Club to Note 50th Year." The writer presents information on the building of the group's clubhouse on Central Avenue in 1929, on its achievements over the years, and on the careers of some of its outstanding members.

THE ISSUE of the *Winona Daily News*, published on November 19 to mark the newspaper's one-hundredth birthday, is a veritable encyclopedia of information on the history of Winona and the surrounding area. The wealth of historical material appearing in the 320 pages of this centennial issue is arranged in sixteen sections covering such subjects as industry, education, religion, transportation, aviation, agriculture, dairying, city and county government, clubs and organizations, and sports. One section is devoted to a review of the history of the newspaper itself, its editors, publishers, reporters, plant, and equipment. The founding and development of Winona and the settlement of other parts of the Mississippi Valley in both Minnesota and Wisconsin receive attention, and considerable emphasis is given to the social life of the early settlers. Of special value are three substantial sections devoted to Winona business and industry. They contain historical sketches of many individual companies, as well as summary articles tracing changes in the city's economic life from its early dependence on lumber and flour to its present pattern of diversified manufacturing. In a section on "Recreation," information is given on the city's parks and on the career of John A. Latsch, who did much to make them possible. Other articles sketch the history of the Upper Mississippi River Wildlife and Fish Refuge and deal with commercial and sport fishing in the Mississippi and with the Lake Pepin pearl button industry that flourished in the early years of the twentieth century. The entire issue is appropriately illustrated, and many of the advertisements contain information of historical interest.

THE FIFTIETH anniversary of the incorporation of the Marshall County village of Oslo in

1905 was commemorated by the publication of an *Oslo Golden Jubilee* booklet prepared by Dr. I. D. Wiltrout and other members of a historical committee (80 p.). The pamphlet contains brief biographical sketches of the area's early settlers; some information on the development of its schools, churches, hotels, banks, stores, and clubs; sketches of the near-by community of Big Woods Landing and the ghost towns of Granville and Halvor; and numerous photographs of early business houses and street scenes. The passing of half a century since settlement began in the Marshall County township of Viking is marked by the publication of a short review of its history in the *Warren Sheaf* of November 23. The author, Mrs. Orville Peters, gives information both on the township and on the village of the same name.

A SPECIAL "Golden Jubilee Section" of the *Mahnomen Pioneer*, included with its issue of June 9, calls attention to the fiftieth anniversary of the incorporation of the village. There the town's beginnings are recalled and sketches of some of its early settlers are presented. Included also is a list of the village mayors from 1905 to the present, with the dates they served. Much information of value on the opening to white settlement of the White Earth Indian Reservation and the subsequent formation of Mahnomen County in 1906 is presented, with a description of the land boom that followed passage of the act opening the reserve. Chief Little White Cloud contributes a brief history of the reservation.

THE ISSUE of the *Glencoe Enterprise*, published on July 21 to mark the one-hundredth anniversary of settlement at Glencoe, contains accounts of many phases of the town's history. Included is material on the settlement of McLeod County, on Glencoe's pioneer citizens, and on the development of its schools, churches, clubs, hospital, newspaper, businesses, water system, and light plant. Detailed historical sketches of the Glencoe Brewing Company, the Kennedy Milling Company, and the Glencoe Butter and Produce Association are given. A number of appropriate illustrations add to the interest and value of the issue.

BEYOND STATE BOUNDARIES

THE SPIRIT of "outspoken expansionism" displayed by certain Minnesotans during the métis uprisings of 1865-70 is emphasized by Alvin C. Gluek, Jr., in a discussion of "The Riel Rebellion and Canadian-American Relations" appear-

ing in the September number of the *Canadian Historical Review*. According to Mr. Gluek, in their efforts to annex the British Northwest "American expansionists spun a complicated web of intrigue that stretched from the Red River Settlement to Washington, D.C." At the center of this intrigue "was the Minnesota juncto" composed of Alexander Ramsey, James W. Taylor, Oscar Malmros, Joseph A. Wheelock, George Becker, and Jay Cooke. These men labored "in Congress and out," writes Mr. Gluek, "to arouse the nation" to Minnesota's northern destiny, and to persuade the state department to work "diligently and ardently to effect a policy designed to annex whatever could be annexed of British North America." But in "the card game for the Northwest," concludes Mr. Gluek, "the wily Canadian Premier, Sir John A. Macdonald, had outdealt his American foes . . . and the Dominion of Canada stretched from sea to sea."

OF INTEREST to readers on both sides of the border are several of the papers published in the *Report* of the Canadian Historical Association's annual meeting at Winnipeg in June, 1954. In one, for example, L. G. Thomas reports on "English Missionary Records and the History of the Canadian West." He gives special attention to the records of the Society for the Propagation of the Gospel, which, he reveals, have much to offer for the student of western Canadian settlement. From one series of letters among these papers Mr. Thomas draws examples that throw light on the history of Winnipeg from 1867 to 1884, as well as on the story of the first Riel rebellion. Of special interest also are papers on "The Vikings in America" by T. J. Oleson, a member of the University of Manitoba faculty who takes a negative view of the Kensington rune stone; and on the course followed by Anthony Henday of the Hudson's Bay Company westward from York Factory "Across the Prairies Two Centuries Ago," by Clifford Wilson.

SIXTEEN decades after Alexander Mackenzie crossed the continent, Ralph Gray retraced the Scottish explorer's route and recorded his own observations of it in the August issue of the *National Geographic Magazine*. Under the title "Across Canada by Mackenzie's Track," the author contrasts Mackenzie's comments with his own descriptions, thus forcefully calling attention to the many changes that have taken place along the route from Montreal to the Pacific. An excellent map and a large number of photographs in color heighten the interest and value of the article.

THE DEVELOPMENT of wheat farming in the provinces of Manitoba, Alberta, and Saskatchewan is emphasized by H. G. L. Strange in his *Short History of Prairie Agriculture* published by the Searle Grain Company Limited (Winnipeg, 1954. 104 p.). The author mentions the beginnings of prairie agriculture in the small plots cultivated around fur trading posts, discusses the crops raised by Selkirk settlers in the Red River Valley, and deals briefly with the blossoming of wheat farming with the coming of railroads and settlers to the Canadian West. Later chapters sketch the rise of farm organizations and milling and elevator companies in the prairie provinces and at Port Arthur and Fort William on Lake Superior, and touch on banking practices and government services to farmers. Statistical tables showing grain production over the years, wheat exports, and the varieties of wheat grown in the region since 1812 are also included.

THE ACTIVITIES of the Hudson's Bay Company in California were of "short duration" according to "A Note on the British Fur Trade in California, 1821-1846" contributed by John S. Galbraith to the August number of the *Pacific Historical Review*. The author states that competitive factors present in the fur trade of other areas were lacking in California, and that the company's "sole motivation" there was profit. When the California trade proved unrewarding, the company liquidated its holdings in 1846.

A GROUP of more than fifty letters written by Sarah A. Andrews in 1864 and 1865 have been edited with an introduction by Willis H. Miller and published under the title *Postmarked Hudson* (Hudson, Wisconsin, 1955. 71 p.). Written to her brother while he was serving in the Union Army during the Civil War, the letters "reflect the social and religious spirit of the period in the frontier community of Hudson." In the editor's opinion, the letters with their graphic accounts of daily happenings in the Andrews household and in the growing community, constitute "some of the best and most authentic source material regarding the history of Hudson and the St. Croix Valley." Genealogical information on the Andrews family and an index add to the usefulness of the work.

SOME information on the industrial development of Stevens Point, Wisconsin, may be found in the December number of the *Soo-Liner*. According to the author, the town's early growth was "wrapped up with lumbering" and such

allied industries as paper mills and furniture factories are still to be found there. Platted in 1853 and named for George Stevens, trader and merchant, the village on the Wisconsin River has been important to the Soo Line since 1871. The railroad remains its largest employer and has terminal and yard facilities there.

THE MINNESOTA SCENE

THE APPOINTMENT of Thomas H. Swain of St. Paul to the post of executive director of the Minnesota Statehood Centennial has been announced by a commission created by the last legislature. Mr. Swain, who formerly managed the St. Paul Chamber of Commerce convention bureau, will be charged with the initiation, promotion, and completion of a co-ordinated plan for observance of the centennial. The commission is composed of fifteen members, including five senators, five representatives, and five individuals appointed by the governor.

THAT MINNESOTA is one of nine states with "names of purely river-name origin" is brought out by John P. Harrington in an article on "Our State Names" published in the *Annual Report* of the Smithsonian Institution for 1954 (Washington, 1955). Included is an analysis of each name. In the case of Minnesota, Mr. Harrington accepts Stephen R. Riggs' statement that the name is derived from the "Dakota Sioux form Mnishota," signifying "'milky' or 'clouded water.'" He also notes Jonathan Carver's early use of the name and states that Henry H. Sibley "is responsible for the spelling."

MUCH VALUABLE information on certain wild life of the area may be found in *A Field Study of the Timber Wolf (Canis Lupus) on the Superior National Forest* by Milton H. Stenlund, recently published as number 4 of the *Technical Bulletins* issued by the Minnesota department of conservation (1955. 55 p.). Although the author is primarily concerned with the habits of the wolf, he presents information gleaned from historical accounts and interviews with early residents to show the presence and indicate the extent in the area of such other animals as moose, elk, bear, ruffed grouse, and especially white-tailed deer. Considerable space is devoted to an examination of the relationship between the wolf and the deer.

ISSUED IN mimeographed form by the Forest History Foundation, Incorporated, as number 1 of a projected series of *Forest History Reports*

is Helen M. White's *Survey of Forest History Resources for the St. Croix River Valley* (18 p.). It was conducted in the fall of 1955 in portions of both the Minnesota and Wisconsin sections of the valley to provide an inventory of extant records of forest industries there and to supplement these written records with selected interviews. The results of Mrs. White's survey are arranged under the names of the towns she visited. In each case, a description of the type of record found, its location, and its content is given. The names of persons interviewed, or worthy of being interviewed, also are included. The writer outlines the methods adopted in making the survey, and gives information on the note-taking and interviewing techniques used. A statement of the foundation's work "For the History of Logging" is contributed by its director, Elwood R. Maunder, to the *Pacific Northwest Quarterly* for October.

A ROSTER of "Logging Railroads of Northern Minnesota" compiled by Franklin A. King appears in number 93 of the *Bulletins of the Railway and Locomotive Historical Society* (1955. 140 p.). Mr. King gives the names of many northern Minnesota lumber companies and the roads they operated, together with data on the types of locomotives and other equipment used, and information on the construction, length, and location of their lines. A map showing the routes of the roads discussed and numerous photographs of logging trains and camps are included. Although apparently based upon extensive research supplemented by interviews, the roster is not annotated.

MANY INCIDENTS in a half century of railroading are recalled by Hugh McCarthy and reported by Frank P. Donovan, Jr., under the title "I Was Born to Railroad" in the October issue of *Trains*. Mr. McCarthy began his career in 1896 and filled such posts as clerk, conductor, brakeman, and yardmaster on the Iowa Central and the Minneapolis and St. Louis railroads before becoming superintendent of the Minnesota Transfer Railway in 1920, a position he held until his retirement in 1947.

THE HISTORICAL background of pending Chippewa claims against the United States government is set forth by George Selkirk, chief of the White Earth band, in two articles appearing in the *Detroit Lakes Tribune* for October 26 and November 2. The chief mentions claims of various Chippewa groups in Minnesota and elsewhere, some of which date back over a hundred years. He also includes a brief

sketch of the tribe's history and lists treaties signed by various Chippewa bands since 1795.

UNDER the title "Portrait of a Jewish Pioneer," Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut of St. Paul contributes to the March, 1955, issue of the *National Jewish Monthly* a sketch of Jacob J. Noah, a leading figure in the political and cultural life of frontier St. Paul. Traced in some detail is Noah's political career in Minnesota in the 1850s as justice of the peace, clerk of the United States District Court in Minnesota Territory, secretary of the Democratic wing of the constitutional convention of 1857, and first clerk of the state supreme court. With the outbreak of the Civil War, Rabbi Plaut reports, Noah was commissioned captain of Company K, Second Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, and when his war service ended he remained in the East. His Minnesota associations, however, continued, for he served under Alexander Ramsey when the latter became secretary of war.

AN ACCOUNT of a trip along "The North Shore in 1890" by the late Bert Fesler appears in the *Cook County News-Herald* of Grand Marais from October 20 to November 10. Based upon a diary kept by Judge Fesler, the series describes a seventeen-day journey made by him from Duluth to Isle Royale in a rowboat and from there to Port Arthur, Ontario, aboard the "Hiram R. Dixon." The author gives the names of fishermen on the North Shore of Lake Superior in the summer of 1890, describes the settlements at Beaver Bay, Two Harbors, Grand Marais, Hovland, and Grand Portage, and lists the equipment and food he carried. The narrative was originally read by Judge Fesler before a meeting of the North Shore Historical Assembly held at Grand Portage on August 23, 1930.

A BRIEF account by Paul Lawson of the platting in 1855 of the ghost town of Clifton on the North Shore of Lake Superior appears in the *Duluth News-Tribune* of October 30 under the title "Withered Promise." The author states that the plat filed by J. S. Watrous provided for generous hundred-foot-wide avenues and two breakwaters to insure a good harbor. The village apparently existed only on paper, however, for "no property transfers were ever made."

A TWENTY-YEAR statistical summary of the financial status of Northwest Bancorporation of Minneapolis and its affiliates, covering the period from 1936 to 1956, appears in that organization's *Annual Report* for 1955. Yearly totals of earnings, income taxes, profits on secu-

rities, losses, net income, reserves, and common stock dividends and book values are given. Also included is a list of the ninety-seven banks in Minnesota, Iowa, Nebraska, Montana, and North and South Dakota that are presently affiliated with the corporation.

THE BEGINNINGS of the Minnesota State Editors and Publishers Association in 1867 are recalled under the title "Kelliher Independent Represented at State Convention" in the issue of that newspaper for January 26. The names of early officers are given and the organization's development into the Minnesota Editorial Association is described.

IN A SERIES of six articles appearing in the *Aitkin Independent Age* from July 14 to August 18, P. W. Swedberg supplies "A History of the Early Settlers in Malmo Community." As a boy of six, the author immigrated from Sweden with his parents in 1881 and settled on a homestead in Malmo Township on the east shore of Mille Lacs Lake in Aitkin County. He recalls details of a trip on the Rum River in a rowboat that transported all the family's household goods, speaks of pioneer life in the Malmo area, of hunting methods and fishing techniques, of his Indian and white neighbors, of the first school, and the establishment of weekly mail service, and describes a gala Fourth of July celebration in 1887 and logging operations in the area in the 1890s.

MEMBERS of the Beltrami County Historical Society viewed John G. Morrison's collection of pipes and other Indian artifacts at a meeting held at Bemidji on November 20. Mr. Morrison, who lives in Redby, explained each item shown, and Erwin Mittelholtz spoke briefly on the history of Grand Portage. Brown Oakgrove sang several Chippewa songs, accompanying himself on a ceremonial drum from the Morrison collection. Accounts of the meeting and pictures of some of the items exhibited may be found in the *Bemidji Daily Pioneer* of November 23 and December 10.

A SPECIAL exhibit in the Brown County Historical Society's museum featuring toys and German Christmas tree ornaments is pictured and described in the *New Ulm Journal* for December 23. The timely display, arranged by Mrs. J. Clark Kellett, museum curator, included toys dating back to 1865.

HIGH LIGHTS in the "History of Benton Township" in Carver County are sketched in

the *Waconia Patriot* for November 24. Included is information on the development of the villages of Benton and Cologne, on the establishment of early grist and flour mills, on schools and churches, and on pioneer settlers.

TO INSURE the preservation of the township, municipal, and school records of Freeborn County, the local historical society recently purchased forty-two steel lockers to provide fire-proof storage for such documents. The lockers have been placed in vaults in the courthouse at Albert Lea and will be made available to interested districts on a rental basis. Records will remain the property of the governmental units involved.

THE GOODHUE County Historical Society's museum "literally bursts with life and shows history from its most delightful viewpoint" according to Betsy Koehler writing in the *Red Wing Daily Republican Eagle* for December 23. Under the title "Historical Museum among Real Assets of Red Wing Community," the author notes that the society recently moved into more spacious quarters in the courthouse at Red Wing and that its museum will now have "more space for detailed display and more room to show off those articles which were young when the county was young." The writer pays tribute to the work of Miss Mabel Densmore, curator of the museum, and describes her efforts to catalogue the collection and systematize the displays.

A SPECIAL exhibit of early billheads from a wide variety of retail firms was arranged recently in the Olmsted County Historical Society's museum at Rochester. Entitled "Rochester Merchants of Yesteryears," the display provided an interesting picture of pioneer business in that area.

A BRIEF outline of the history of the *Belview Independent* appears in the issue of that newspaper for November 11 under the title "Sixty Years of Service to Town." Based upon records in the paper's own files, the sketch chronicles the newspaper's establishment by F. G. Tuttle in 1895 and traces its subsequent development through eight changes of ownership.

AS A MEANS of promoting interest in its objectives, the Rice County Historical Society recently issued a mimeographed booklet outlining its past activities and future plans (18 p.). Major space is given to an illustrated account of the society's restoration and furnishing of the Alexander Faribault House, a project begun

in 1945. Another report on the restoration project, for which approximately ten thousand dollars has been spent thus far, may be found in the issue of the *Faribault Daily News* for October 28. Proceeds of the society's annual silver tea, held on October 29, were added to the Faribault House restoration fund.

THE STEARNS County Historical Society was reorganized at a meeting held at St. Cloud on November 9. On hand to assist in the reorganization and to make suggestions concerning the society's role in the forthcoming observance of the incorporation of St. Cloud as a town were the director of the Minnesota Historical Society, Mr. Russell Fridley, and its field director, Mr. Arch Grahn. Mr. E. L. Stockinger of St. Cloud was elected president of the local society.

A NUMBER of charming local scenes painted by Birney Quick are reproduced with Donald Hough's article on Ely in the July number of the *Lincoln-Mercury Times*. They provide a delightful setting for Mr. Hough's memories of his service as a forester in Superior National Forest in the 1920s.

A TWELVE-PAGE section of the *New Richland Star* for December 1 contains a wealth of material on "The History of New Richland Schools." Numerous appropriately illustrated articles trace the growth of the school system in this Waseca County area from the erection of the first one-room structure in 1878 to the dedication on December 4, 1955, of a new building for School District 143. Much information is included on bond issues, school land acquisitions and buildings, rural bus service, teachers, and school activities over the years.

A PAPER on the "History of the Polish People at Winona," read by Paul Libera before a meeting of the Winona County Historical Society on October 26, has been issued in mimeographed form. The author records the arrival of the first Polish settlers in Winona in 1855, tells of the substantial migration in the decades that followed, and speaks of the Polish Catholic church and school there and of the Polish language newspaper published for some thirty-five years following 1886. A condensed version of Mr. Libera's paper appears in the *Winona Daily News* for October 29. The Winona society sponsored a historical quiz based upon material appearing in the centennial edition of the *News*, published on November 19. Quiz questions appeared in ten issues of the newspaper and cash prizes were awarded the winners.

NEWS OF THE SOCIETY

TESTIMONY in the long pending suit to quiet title to Captain William Clark's field notes of 1803-04 was heard in Minneapolis before Judge Gunnar Nordbye of the United States District Court from December 13 to 16. It will be recalled that the notes were discovered in January, 1953, in a St. Paul attic by Miss Lucile Kane, the society's curator of manuscripts. The suit was initiated against the society by the heirs of General John Henry Hammond, among whose effects the Clark Papers were found. Because they were created as federal records, the United States government intervened. Its claim is explained by Robert H. Bahmer, assistant archivist of the United States, in an article on "The Case of the Clark Papers" published in the *American Archivist* for January. Opposing the government's claim were members of the Manuscript Society, an organization composed of private collectors and representatives of non-governmental institutions. An explanation of its attitude is given in the Summer, 1955, issue of its quarterly, *Manuscripts*. Among those who offered testimony during the Minneapolis hearings were some of the nation's leading historians and archivists, as well as book dealers and members of the Hammond family. After a complete transcript of their evidence has been prepared and the briefs have been filed, Judge Nordbye will hand down his decision, probably early in the spring. A copy of the transcript eventually will be added to the society's collections. As an interested party, the society cannot comment on the suit while the evidence is under consideration by the court. A full report of the case, however, will appear in this magazine after Judge Nordbye has filed his decision.

THE SOCIETY'S 1956 annual meeting will be held in the Historical Building on May 11, the ninety-eighth anniversary of Minnesota's admission to statehood. The program will be announced in the near future.

THE SOLON J. BUCK Award for 1955 has been granted to G. Theodore Mitau for his article on "The Democratic-Farmer-Labor Party Schism of 1948," which appeared in the Spring, 1955, issue of this magazine. The award, given to the author of the best article published each year in the society's quarterly, carries with it a grant of fifty dollars from a special fund provided by a friend of the society. The selection for 1955 was made by a committee of three, named by the society's president, with Professor Carlton Qualey of Carleton College as chairman.

AN OFFER made by the Mississippi Valley Historical Association to turn over to the society the Alvord Memorial Commission with all its assets and functions has been accepted by the society's executive committee. Final arrangements for the transfer were completed at the association's meeting in Pittsburgh in December. The commission, which was established in 1928, raised a fund for the publication of source material relating to Mississippi Valley history. Its current assets amount to about four thousand dollars. The society is obligated to use the fund for the publication of significant documentary material of importance for the Mississippi Valley and to give appropriate credit to the commission in any volumes thus financed.

THE SOCIETY'S book editor for the past thirty-six years, Mary Wheelhouse Berthel, will retire on May 1. Mrs. Berthel joined the society's staff in the summer of 1920, when she came to St. Paul from the Illinois State Historical Library at Urbana to edit and supervise the publication of Dr. Folwell's four-volume *History of Minnesota*. Twenty-six printed books and pamphlets have since been published by the society—more than half the total of fifty-one issued under its imprint in the hundred and seven years of its existence. Among them is Mrs. Berthel's own study of James M. Goodhue, *Horns of Thunder* (1948).

AS A RESULT of the interested efforts of the society's president, Mr. Carl W. Jones of Minneapolis, sufficient funds have been raised to begin cataloguing the vast number of pictorial items added to the picture collection in the past decade. The work of arranging and cataloguing an estimated four hundred thousand recent accessions in the picture department, including negatives, was inaugurated on March 1 by two full-time cataloguers. It is expected that the project can be completed in about three years.

MISS KANE'S "Guide for Collectors of Manuscripts," originally issued by the society in mimeographed form as number 1 of its *Service Bulletins*, has been printed in two installments in the December and January numbers of *History News*. Before making it available to a wider audience, Miss Kane revised it extensively.

THE PAPERS of the John H. Shober family of Mantorville, covering the period from 1849 to about 1890 and consisting of approximately two hundred items, have been presented by the State Historical Society of Montana at Helena.

Included are some business records of a pioneer mercantile business at Mantorville in the 1850s, accounts kept by a Dodge County farmer from 1856 to 1871, the minutes of a debating society at Mantorville in 1851, material relating to roads in Dodge County in the 1850s, and some items on placer mining in the Black Hills in 1877.

TWO DIARIES kept by Edward S. Pattee of Minneapolis in 1898 while searching for gold in Alaska are among thirty-seven items from his papers recently presented by his daughter, Miss Sidney Pattee of Minneapolis. Included in the earlier diary is a record of the trip to Vancouver and Skagway.

AMONG organizations which met recently in the Weyerhaeuser Room were the Folk Arts Foundation, on December 3, and the Ramsey County Historical Society, on February 12. At both meetings the society's panorama of the Sioux War by John Stevens was unrolled, and the explanatory text was read by Mr. Dunn. Another feature of the earlier program was a group of French-Canadian voyageur songs, performed by Dean Melva Lind of Gustavus Adolphus College.

Memorials

THE MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY has a Memorial Fund to which contributions can be made upon the loss of a relative or friend. Such gifts not only serve as appropriate expressions of sympathy and condolence, but they help to support work that is a fitting memorial to any Minnesotan.

Whenever a contribution is received for the Memorial Fund, a suitable card is mailed to the bereaved family, and the names of those whose memories are honored, as well as of contributors, are recorded in a Memorial Book.

Use the blank that follows in contributing to the Memorial Fund:

ENCLOSED is my contribution of \$_____ to the Minnesota Historical Society's Memorial Fund.

Presented in the name of _____

Please send card to _____

Address _____

Signed _____

Address _____



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