

A *History of Minnesota*, volume 1. By WILLIAM WATTS FOLWELL. (St. Paul, The Minnesota Historical Society, 1956. xx, 533 p. Illustrations, maps. \$6.50.)

Reviewed by Theodore C. Blegen

THIS REVISED EDITION of the first volume of Dr. Folwell's *History of Minnesota* is a thirty-fifth anniversary offering, for the original work came out in 1921. It has long been out of print, and the book is now made available in an improved version, with corrections of sundry errors and misprints, several redrawn maps, twenty-one delightfully selected new illustrations, and an informing introduction by Russell W. Fridley. The Minnesota Historical Society has done a genuine service in thus republishing in handsome dress a major book of continuing and absorbing interest, basic to the understanding of our early history, and a memorial to a creative builder of Minnesota, Dr. Folwell himself.

Here is the fascinating and familiar story of Minnesota from the days of French exploration and occupation to the eve of statehood, with its sixteen substantial chapters and a baker's dozen of interesting and lively appendixes, all documented with consummate editorial care. Here is the urbane charm of the wise and venerable author; here are his incisive phrases; here his humane scholarship (disciplined by the sharp editorial acumen of Dr. Solon J. Buck); and here, to the discerning reader, the characteristic marks of his wit and his warm attachment to the state to which he came as president of the University of Minnesota in 1869. I commend this book for rereading by those familiar with it in its original form, and I urge others, to whom its pages will be a new adventure, to buy the volume and share in its delight.

It is enlightening to look back upon contem-

porary appraisals of a work like this from the perspective of several decades, in this case a period as long as that from the end of the Civil War to the beginning of the twentieth century. I find that the late Professor William Mason West reviewed volume 1 in 1921 in the *Minnesota History Bulletin*—and my sense of the swift passage of years was sharpened a trifle, I must confess, by discovering that I myself was the author of a review immediately following that by West. Professor West pronounced the Folwell book "authentic, authoritative, adequate," and even more, he judged it "almost unique in its completeness and finality" as an account of "the beginnings of an American commonwealth."

This was a judgment that, however sound in 1921, cannot be sustained thirty-five years later. More than thirty volumes of *Minnesota History* have appeared since Dr. Folwell wrote, and their several thousands of pages are crowded with essays and documents dealing with the social, cultural, and economic history of Minnesota, with much emphasis upon the pioneering years preceding statehood. The panoramic expanse of history thus elaborated is only faintly suggested or intimated in the Folwell *History*. Indeed, it would be possible now to rewrite our early history, retaining the essentials of the political story that seemed of paramount importance to Dr. Folwell, in a broad framework that he did not and could not envisage, a framework embracing the wide-ranging life and activities of the people from the humblest to the highest levels of work and profession.

Moreover, it is well to be reminded by Mr. Fridley—and his reminder is re-enforced by the latest published guide to the society's manuscript collection—that vast quantities of historical source materials have been made accessible in the past thirty-five years which Dr. Folwell gave special attention, such as exploration, including some of those to which Dr. Folwell gave special attention, such as exploration and the early trade in furs. I think it may fairly be said that nearly every chapter in the

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Folwell story can now be restudied, corrected, expanded, clarified, and reinterpreted in the light of new sources and modern scholarship—the fruits of collecting and of historical study during the past four decades.

These comments do not detract from the fine values in the basic survey that Dr. Folwell, using everything then available to him, made a generation ago. His book is an impressive monument in our Minnesota historiography. It is worth reading today. It deserved reprinting. It does signal honor both to the author and to the Minnesota Historical Society. Recognition of this honor must not close our eyes, however, to the challenge that every new generation must face—that of rewriting its history. There is no finality in the writing of history. With Dr. Folwell's example as an inspiration, some Minnesota scholar or group of scholars should write the full story of this state for a new generation, drawing upon all the richness of materials available, utilizing the full gamut of sources, new and old, primary and secondary—the products of historical collecting and scholarship before, since, and including the day of William Watts Folwell.

MINNESOTA NOVELIST

With Love from Gracie, Sinclair Lewis: 1912–1925. By GRACE HEGGER LEWIS. (New York, Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1955. vii, 335 p. Illustrations. \$5.75.)

Reviewed by Charles G. Cleaver

SINCLAIR LEWIS has always been something of a puzzle: to what extent was he, as a man, outraged by the shallowness and complacency of the Babbitts he wrote about, and to what extent did he share the values and attitudes of the civilization he satirized? This memoir by Lewis' first wife, covering the thirteen years of their courtship and marriage, contributes substantially to our understanding of the man and the writer. Instead of resolving the puzzle, however, the author reinforces the idea that Lewis was indeed a man pulled in two directions.

Mrs. Lewis' portrait is of a man who was uncomfortable visiting in Sauk Centre, yet defensive when outsiders criticized his neighbors; a man who resented the narrowness and dogmatism of his father, Dr. E. J. Lewis, but who was often strangely deferential and even imitative

of him. Lewis, as his wife describes him, was an artist and craftsman of severe integrity, yet he was sensitive enough to the sale of his literary wares to help in writing advertising copy for them. He was a "plain, simple man" with a flair for the romantic and the dramatic; he was a wandering seeker who could never establish home or roots, a husband who was sometimes tender and sometimes tyrannical, a father who was jealous of his son, a man who was hungry for the approval of others but who became increasingly egocentric as his success became increasingly secure.

Mrs. Lewis' book is about her famous husband, but it is also, almost inevitably, about her marriage to him. Perhaps she did not mean it to be so, but her marriage itself, with its ultimate failure, is a major theme of the book. The memoir contains many passages, too, that are simply chatty. She tells us about her trousseau, her techniques as a housekeeper and hostess, her problems as a mother; she draws for us deft sketches of notable people the Lewises met and interesting places they visited. But Mrs. Lewis is a perceptive woman, and the little reminiscences that crowd the book are not necessarily insignificant. We can piece together from them, for example, a revealing description of Lewis' workmanlike methods of obtaining material, his painstaking habits of composition, and his careful revisions, with which Mrs. Lewis helped.

For the student of literature the book contains further useful material: a number of Lewis letters and early verses, information about the genesis of *Main Street*, *Free Air*, *Babbitt*, *Arrowsmith*, and the long-projected but unwritten labor novel (inspired by Lewis' admiration for Eugene Debs), and insights into Lewis' relations with publishers and other writers. His literary friendships, however, were relatively unimportant. Lewis usually shied away from literary circles; he "influenced public thinking," says Mrs. Lewis, "rather than public writing."

Those interested in explaining how Lewis' creative talents were related to his Minnesota background may also find helpful information in this book. Mrs. Lewis did not meet the novelist until after he had left Minnesota, but she describes in some detail a long visit to Sauk Centre, a residence of nearly two years in St. Paul,

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and a summer in Mankato. With further evidence of this sort, we may gradually begin to understand the astonishingly rich literary history of Minnesota during the 1920s, and the challenging fact that Minnesota during that decade produced three thoroughly disparate men—Lewis, F. Scott Fitzgerald, and Ole Rolvaag—who became fiction writers of very great importance.

INDIAN WARFARE

The Indian Wars of Minnesota. By LOUIS H. ROOTS. (Cedar Rapids, Iowa, The Torch Press, 1956. viii, 311 p. Illustrations. \$5.50.)

Reviewed by Stanley Vestal

INTEREST in our Indian wars has steadily grown, and it is gratifying to find such a thorough treatment of Minnesota's Indian troubles in this, the first comprehensive book on that subject. Although the author is a retired navy man, he writes well and intelligently of the military maneuvers of landlubbers.

Here we find in one volume the whole story, from the Spirit Lake massacre through the Sioux Outbreak in 1862 and the trial and punishment of the war criminals, on through the campaigns of 1863 and 1864 in Dakota, the Blueberry War, and the Leech Lake uprising in 1898—the last conflict between American Indians and United States troops in which any considerable number of casualties occurred. His analysis of the causes of all this strife is clear and accurate and thoroughly documented.

The warfare from 1862 to 1865, taking place as it did when most of the army was busy fighting the Confederates, has not received the attention which a disaster of such magnitude deserves. Not less than thirty thousand settlers were driven from their homes, and an area two hundred miles long and fifty miles wide was almost completely depopulated. President Lincoln, in his message to Congress on December 1, 1862, spoke of the number of civilians and soldiers killed as not less than eight hundred. The Indian loss is not definitely known, and to it

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must be added the thirty-nine Sioux executed for committing atrocities.

As a result of the uprising, the Sioux lost their lands in Minnesota, were cut off from governmental aid for some years, and were driven into Dakota and Montana territories by Generals Henry H. Sibley and Alfred Sully. This conflict discovered in Sibley a high degree of military talent. He was one of the most skillful and able commanders of the Civil War period and deserves a place among the first half-dozen Indian fighters in the history of America, ranking with Andrew Jackson, William Henry Harrison, and Nelson A. Miles. The author has not, however, devoted much space to character studies of the participants, and he seldom deals in anecdote.

If there is any fault to be found with this book, it is perhaps that the author has not used the existing eye-witness accounts of Indian participants, particularly those covering the fighting in Dakota, at Killdeer Mountain, and elsewhere.

CHANGING CHIPPEWA

Chippewa Indians of Yesterday and Today. By SISTER M. CAROLISSA LEVI, F.S.P.A. (New York, Pageant Press, Inc., 1956. 385 p. Illustrations. \$5.00.)

Reviewed by F. Sanford Cutler

THE TITLE of this volume is somewhat misleading. Except for the background material included in the introductory chapters, the author has confined herself to describing Chippewa customs and life on three Wisconsin reservations—Bad River, Lac Court Oreilles, and Red Cliff—where she has spent considerable time. Here she has made a significant contribution. Few writers have depicted the current plight of these people with greater literary skill, and none has done so with more sympathy. Although the theme of the present-day "Indian problem" pervades the entire book, there are excellent descriptive chapters on the material life of these Chippewa and their social and religious beliefs. While it is possible to question the author's identification of Chippewa political and social philosophy with the viewpoint of the late editor of the *Chicago Tribune*, and to wonder about

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the relevance of a note on the cause of the Chicago fire in a book about Wisconsin Indians, these are insignificant matters.

A more serious criticism must be leveled at the publishers of this volume. Although you "can't judge a book by its cover," and it would be manifestly unfair to condemn this study because of the jacket blurb, it is quite probable that no publisher in recent years has performed so great a disservice to an author as has occurred in the case of *Chippewa Indians*. The commission of six serious factual errors in the first paragraph of the blurb might well discourage a prospective reader. Worse still is the cover illustration, repeated as a frontispiece, which shows an Indian, wearing a Sioux war bonnet, dressed in a costume also clearly Siouan, with a peace pipe of questionable origin under one arm.

Nor does this work, as the publisher claims, "crystallize a monumental amount of scholarly research." The author has apparently failed to utilize most of the monographic material by Sister Inez Hilger, Frances Densmore, Ruth Landes, and W. V. Kinnietz, and has relied instead almost entirely upon WPA historical records, newspaper accounts, and personal observations. The historical sections are rather sketchy, and an undue amount of confidence is placed in the unsupported statements made by William W. Warren in his *History of the Ojibway Nation*.

WISCONSIN'S LA FOLLETTE

La Follette and the Rise of the Progressives in Wisconsin. By ROBERT S. MAXWELL. (Madison, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1956. viii, 271 p. Illustrations. \$4.50.)

Reviewed by Donald F. Warner

THIS VOLUME is not recommended for those who wish their history staged in a fog of romantic illusion. At the outset, Professor Maxwell sets a tone of realism by showing that La Follette's gubernatorial nomination by the Republican convention in 1900 was the result of a coalition with the Stalwart machine rather than a revolt against and a bare-knuckle fight with it. Ambitious members of that organization hoped to wrest control from inept leaders by electing La Follette and using him. In office, he disappointed them by his aggressive leadership

for progressive legislation; the unstable alliance separated, and his erstwhile conservative allies blocked his reform proposals in the Wisconsin legislature.

Educated by defeat, La Follette, enemy of political machines, constructed his own machine, using the traditional materials of patronage and the checkbook of a millionaire lumber baron. This organization was ruthlessly effective until La Follette's untimely ambitions for the presidency split it in 1912 and handed control of the state to the Stalwarts.

This excellent volume illustrates the truism that reformers, like the reactionaries they seek to replace, are most effective when they use the traditional political weapons of organization, coalition, and cash. Professor Maxwell, who is sympathetic to La Follette, objectively shows that he used standard political techniques, and that his dictatorial tactics and driving ambition must be weighed against his superb qualities; nor does his stature shrink as he becomes a credible human being.

Equally objective is the description of the Progressive program, begun by La Follette and continued by others after his ascension to Washington. Progressivism did not first sprout in Wisconsin nor did it reach its fullest flower there. The Wisconsin contribution was to wed efficiency to reform by using highly trained personnel in the planning and implementing of the program. Administration in such complex areas as taxation, railroads, and industrial regulation was given to skilled commissions, a successful method widely copied. Again the realist, Professor Maxwell points out that the Progressives synchronized state government with the complexities of contemporary industrial society, but at the cost of great expenditure and centralization and, possibly, too rapidly. Subsequent political bitterness in Wisconsin, the author believes, perhaps arose from the unwonted speed and reach of the transition.

This is an excellent book in research, style, and interpretation. It is eminently successful in giving an account of La Follette and the Progressive movement in Wisconsin equally free of hero worship or rancor.

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RAILS WEST

The American Railroad Network, 1861-1890.

By GEORGE ROGERS TAYLOR and IRENE D. NEU. (Cambridge, Massachusetts, Harvard University Press, 1956. viii, 113 p. Maps. \$3.75.)

Reviewed by Frank P. Donovan, Jr.

THE AUTHORS of this study of the American railroad network from 1861 to 1890 shed light on an aspect of domestic transportation which has been more or less overlooked. For example, railroad maps of that era seem to disclose a moderately integrated system of main and secondary lines east of the Mississippi River. Such, however, was not the case. Because of a hodgepodge of gauges, long-distance shipments usually had to break bulk at one or more points. Moreover, up until the time of the Civil War an important rail center like Philadelphia actually had no connections between the various roads except by street railway. Then, too, sizeable rivers were not bridged, nor were car ferries plentiful.

Little or no long-range planning was in part responsible for this state of affairs. A more cogent reason, the authors point out, was the rivalry of local interests. Cities fought against cities, and railroads were made subservient to local interests. Portland, Maine, vied with Boston, and the latter with New York. Portland settled for a five-foot-six-inch gauge; Boston selected a four-foot-eight-and-one-half-inch (standard); and New York interests favored an even six feet. In 1861 at least seven gauges were used in the United States.

George Taylor and Irene Neu show how the Civil War accentuated the need for gauge standardization among American railroads. Another factor was the setting of the gauge of the first transcontinental railroad at four feet, eight and one-half inches. The large grain movements from the West and Midwest to the East also contributed to the trend toward standardization. Finally, by 1890 virtually all the nation's "broad-gauge" railroads were narrowed to four feet, eight and one-half inches, and this measurement became standard. At the same time the

narrow-gauge movement which flourished in the early 1880s was on the wane.

The study also includes descriptions of the ingenious ways used to eliminate the transshipment of freight and of the rise of "fast freight lines." An extremely valuable feature of the book is its maps showing the railroads in the United States and Canada in 1861. The various roads are enumerated, and their gauge is indicated by a color chart. As far as the reviewer is aware, this is the only publication available that includes a comprehensive gauge map of American and Canadian railroads for a period when variations in track gauges were so prevalent.

MANUSCRIPTS INVENTORY

Forest History Sources of the United States and Canada. Compiled by CLODAUGH M. NEIDERHEISER. (St. Paul, Forest History Foundation, Inc., 1956. xiii, 140 p. Mimeographed. \$3.00.)

Reviewed by Lucile M. Kane

IN ITS ten-year life, the Forest History Foundation has rendered notable service in disseminating information about forest history records in the United States and Canada. *Forest History Sources* is its most outstanding contribution thus far. The inventory describes 972 manuscript collections held by 108 institutions in thirty-six states, the District of Columbia, and four Canadian provinces. Encompassing a period of three hundred years, from the early seventeenth to the mid-twentieth century, it includes business and government records, personal papers, and reminiscences containing data on almost every phase of forestry and the forest industries. For example, listed are the records of a Colorado forestry association, the ledger of a Connecticut cabinetmaker, an account book of a Massachusetts paper mill, the personal papers of a conservationist, and records of companies that built boats, logged, and sawed lumber.

Miss Neiderheiser, research associate on the foundation's staff, has grouped the descriptions first by state and then by institutions within each state. She has attempted to give in each entry the title of the record group, the period

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covered, the quantity and type of records, and a summary of subject matter to be found in the material. Since some institutions could not supply all this information, the entries vary in completeness. Even the briefest entries, however, are helpful in that they indicate where specific collections are located.

The inventory shows that institutions with important collections of forest history materials are widely scattered. In the upper Great Lakes area, where white pine was king, extensive collections are located in the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, the Minnesota Historical Society, and the Michigan Historical Collections in the University of Michigan. The East is represented by large concentrations in the National Archives, the Library of Congress, the Baker Library in Harvard University, and by the Cornell Collection of Regional History; the South by Louisiana State University, Duke University, and the University of North Carolina; and the Pacific Coast by the Bancroft Library in the University of California, and the University of Washington. Growing collections in other institutions may rival these libraries in the near future. And the next edition of the inventory, promised by 1960, will probably include repositories that did not find it possible to co-operate in this venture.

Scholars are indebted to Miss Neiderheiser for the skillful and patient work that has gone into this excellent inventory. Her accomplishment should encourage increased use of many little-known materials and the production of other subject-matter guides, now too rare among bibliographic tools.

TERRITORIAL LABORATORY

Dakota Territory, 1861-1889: A Study of Frontier Politics. By HOWARD ROBERTS LAMAR. (New Haven, Yale University Press, 1956. x, 304 p. Illustrations, maps. \$4.50.)

Reviewed by Herbert S. Schell

ORIGINALLY presented as a doctoral dissertation at Yale University, this book represents an effort to appraise the territorial system by turning the spotlight upon the political history of a single territorial creation. Dakota Territory affords a most accommodating research laboratory because of its thirty-year tutelage under "federal colonialism" and its northern plains

environment. The result is an intriguing analysis of political behavior which the author thinks may explain the political activities of later Dakota farmers under the banners of Populism and the Nonpartisan League. Extensive use was made of the territorial papers in the National Archives.

The exciting story of Dakota politics begins with the efforts of the Dakota Land Company of St. Paul to create a territorial empire out of the western part of Minnesota Territory. The brazen speculation of a group of Minnesota politicians in rivalry with a similarly motivated Sioux City trading company dominated by J. B. S. Todd, cousin of Mary Todd Lincoln, affords excellent documentation for the contention that political office and patronage were deemed a major source of wealth on a relatively unsettled frontier.

The author attributes reliance on governmental patronage in large part to the forbidding semiarid northern plains environment, which made such support necessary for survival during the 1860s. The field of politics offered the one sure means of a livelihood to those who remained in Dakota. The counterfeeling that federal support was no longer so vital for existence developed later, and the author regards it as one important psychological factor in the emergence of the statehood movement in the southern half of the territory by 1883.

In his analysis of this movement, the author places undue emphasis upon the "Yankton oligarchy," ascribing its motive largely to an interest in regaining the territorial capital. After the removal of the capital to Bismarck in the 1880s, Yankton politicians harbored no such ambition. By that time the center of political gravity in South Dakota had shifted to the central counties whence came the major support for division and separate statehood after 1883.

The author seems too anxious to discover a social and economic cleavage in Dakota politics. Dakota was essentially rural, and there was little basis for rigid class lines. The role of cor-

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porate interests also can be easily overdrawn. The author's inference that "the last five territorial governors were men picked and approved" by the three major railroads is definitely incorrect. The sinister motives ascribed to statehood leaders in South Dakota in the drafting of the 1885 and 1889 constitutions are not borne out by the evidence.

Although it falls short of being definitive, Mr. Lamar's study is a distinct contribution. Its provocative character will inspire historians to renewed vigor in examining the territorial system.

INDIANA ANTHOLOGY

Readings in Indiana History. Compiled by GAYLE THORNBROUGH and DOROTHY RIKER. (Indianapolis, Indiana Historical Bureau, 1956. xii, 625 p. \$2.00 paper, \$4.50 cloth.)

Reviewed by Philip D. Jordan

A SUCCESSFUL COLLECTION of readings must include selections that are typical of time and place, are relatively colorful and interesting to the layman, and are of value to teacher and student as instructional aids. Such a volume is always a gamble, for readers and reviewers invariably feel that certain selections might well have been omitted in order to make room for even more significant passages. Critics all too frequently forget that compilers of anthologies have only limited space, and that the book must be in balance.

The editors who put together this literary and historical tour of Indiana history, from those vague, dim days of prehistoric cultures to the crispness of the Hoosier's concept of Indiana and One World, have produced a useful and fascinating guide. It obviously is a vast improvement over the first *Readings in Indiana History*, which was published in 1914. This edition is larger, pertains to a greater variety of subjects, and draws, of course, upon research done recently. For example, Logan Esarey is represented by a passage from his classic *The Indiana Home*. Excerpts are drawn also from Lewis Atherton's *Main Street on the Middle Border* and from R. Carlyle Buley's prize-winning *The Old Northwest*.

Grouped under thirty-two headings, the material generally follows a chronological pattern. And there is nice balance between political events and economic developments. It seems to this reviewer that the section pertaining to the public domain is of particular value for both student and general reader. Certainly, the chapters which tell of pioneer living, of transportation and travel, of breaking and tilling the land, and of the beginnings of schools and churches are valuable and of interest. The editors selected the items wisely for a section describing medical practice and pioneer ills and cures. Another chapter deals with the automobile and the airplane. It would be quite unfair not to mention several delightful essays which make up the book's final section. Here are found Howard Peckham's "What Made Hoosiers Write?" and an almost imperishable selection from Ernie Pyle's *Home Country*.

For a "book of readings," this anthology is a superior product. This reviewer's only regret is that the volume physically is not nearly as attractive as its contents.

PRAIRIE TRAVELER

A Tour on the Prairies. By WASHINGTON IRVING. Edited with an Introductory Essay by JOHN FRANCIS McDERMOTT. (Norman, University of Oklahoma Press, 1956. xxxii, 214 p. Map. \$2.00.)

Reviewed by John T. Flanagan

WASHINGTON IRVING returned to the United States in 1832 after a residence of seven-teen years in Europe. Not only had he completely lost touch with his own country, but he had never seen the American West. When an opportunity came to join an expedition led by Henry L. Ellsworth which would visit the Pawnee hunting grounds in what is now north central Oklahoma, he acquiesced with alacrity. The expedition had no special mission beyond that of pacifying hostile Indians (as a matter of fact none were visible). Irving went along as a kind of equestrian tourist, eager to sample the life of the bivouac and the hunt. The record of this trip, *A Tour on the Prairies*, which orig-

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inally appeared in 1835, has gone through many editions. While not a major work, it has undeniable charm and vividness.

For most of a month-long tour, the party enjoyed fine weather, and Irving reveled in the autumn foliage and transparent air. He saw some Indians and praised the Osages extravagantly for their "fine Roman countenances" and their "noble bronze figures." Irving crossed the Arkansas River in a boat made of buffalo skins, learned to eat roasted skunk, watched the roping of wild horses, killed a buffalo bull, and subsisted so long on meat that he suffered scorbutic disturbances. He was also interested in the free behavior of the quasi-military rangers whose protection he enjoyed. Probably most of all he was impressed by the novelty and excitement of his experiences. At the height of his career in 1832 as a teller of romantic legends, Irving could not resist painting the scenes in lush colors with the pen of the trained artist. In camp the men had a Robin Hood air, and the river valleys lacked only a ruined castle to be theatrically memorable. The present editor, one feels, is a little too enthusiastic about Irving as a genre painter when actually the novelist was only succumbing to his congenital passion for the picturesque.

In 1944 John Francis McDermott edited *The Western Journals of Washington Irving*, the original notebooks on which the *Tour* was based. It is particularly appropriate that Professor McDermott should now make available the more finished volume. It has been carefully edited with adequate and informative notes. The present book is another item in the excellent Western Frontier Library, handsome in format and inexpensive in cost. The reader who remembers Washington Irving only as the creator of Rip Van Winkle and Ichabod Crane will experience a pleasant surprise in meeting him as an early traveler on the western prairies.

PORTRAIT OF THE NORTH

Northern Treasury: Selections from The Beaver.

Edited by CLIFFORD WILSON. An introduction by LEONARD W. BROCKINGTON. (New York, The Devin-Adair Company, 1956. viii, 328 p. Illustrations. \$3.50.)

Reviewed by JUNE D. HOLMQUIST

THE FAR NORTH has a peculiar fascination for Americans. Much of its vastness, its sim-

plicity, and its challenge have been caught and distilled in the pages of *The Beaver*, the unique magazine published by the Hudson's Bay Company. Old friends of that quarterly need only be told that *Northern Treasury* is composed of varied, delightful, and informative selections from *The Beaver*. To others who have not yet made the magazine's acquaintance, this book will provide a rewarding introduction.

In his foreword to the volume, Mr. Wilson points out that *The Beaver* began as a house organ for company personnel. In 1933, however, its purpose was broadened and it became "the magazine of the north." The book under review is made up of skillfully chosen articles that appeared in its pages between 1933 and 1954, and, as Mr. Brockington says in his introduction, it is indeed "a sampling from a very rich mine."

As might be expected, a number of chapters are devoted to various aspects of the Hudson's Bay Company's work—the trading of furs. *Beaver* fans will find reprinted Douglas Mac Kay's word picture of old Fort Garry, Guy Blanchet's account of the last of the Athabaska brigades, Franklin Remington's description of a memorable trip from York Factory to London in 1888 on a sailing vessel, and Peter Freuchen's amusing report on old-time trading.

A number of selections deal with adventure and exploration in the North Country—on the Albany and Kazan rivers, in the Nahanni region, and with Rae of the Arctic. In these pages the reader can travel by canoe down foaming rivers, by dog sled over frozen wilderness, by ship above the Arctic circle, and by railroad with Florence Page Jaques "from nowhere to nowhere" in British Columbia.

Nor are the hardy inhabitants of the Northland forgotten. A potpourri of sketches depicts the Eskimo at work and at play, the Cree hunter, the wolverine "Devil of the North," and Napoleon, who was a very odd horse indeed. The strange experience of Roderick Mac Farlane adds a dash of mystery to the dish, and Stephen Leacock's amusing "Reflections on the North" provide the necessary spice of humor.

This book will ring true for readers who know the North Country at firsthand, and it will appeal also to the many armchair adventurers who would like to know that vast and varied region.

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. . . on the HISTORICAL HORIZON

THE ROLE OF "The Grand Jury on the Frontier" is analyzed by Richard D. Younger in the autumn number of the *Wisconsin Magazine of History*. "Few imported institutions were as adaptable to the spirit of the frontier as was the grand jury," writes Mr. Younger. "Through the variety of their activities and powers, frontier grand juries acted as effective sounding boards in making known the desires of the people and served as a curb upon the activities of public officials." Drawing his examples from the East, South, and Middle West, the author effectively describes how territorial grand juries were chosen and remunerated, outlines the nature of their duties, prerogatives, and indictments, and speaks of the institution as an agency of protest and as a commentator on frontier politics. The same issue of the magazine contains a detailed discussion of "The Background of the La Follette-McGovern Schism" in the presidential election of 1912 by Herbert F. Margulies. The writer characterizes it as "the most disastrous schism in the history of Wisconsin progressivism," and provides valuable background on the causes and consequences of the conflict between La Follette and Governor Francis E. McGovern.

SOME "Observations on Cranial Injuries on the Western Frontier" are offered by Cyril B. Courville in the October issue of the *Bulletin of the Medical Library Association*. The author does not deal with the subject from a medical point of view, but rather discusses the circumstances under which head injuries were received by such frontier figures as Jesse James, Wild Bill Hickok, George A. Custer, Marcus Whitman, E. R. S. Canby, Frank McLowery, Fray Pedro de Avila, William B. Travis, and others.

A NEW INTERPRETATION of the historical importance of the United States Supreme Court's decision in the Granger cases is offered by George H. Miller in an analysis of the "Chicago, Burlington and Quincy Railroad Company v. Iowa" in the October issue of the *Iowa Journal of History*. Taking this case as his example, Mr. Miller attempts to show that "the real significance of the Granger decisions for students of constitutional law lies in the fact that they summed up a passing era in American history while preparing the way for a new era." After discussing at length the background and details of the Iowa case, which grew out of "one of a series of rate-control

measures adopted by the states of the upper Mississippi Valley between 1869 and 1874," the author concludes that the supreme court's decision was "far less radical than generally supposed."

A UNIQUE handbook of interest to business historians and others is *The Business Founding Date Directory*, compiled by Etna M. Kelley (Scarsdale, New York, 1954. 228 p.). The directory contains an alphabetical list of more than nine thousand existing American companies with their founding dates, and, in many cases, additional information is included on products, founders, buildings, etc. The second half of the book is devoted to a chronological list of businesses established from 1687 to 1915. Included are wholesale, retail, and manufacturing firms, as well as trade associations, grain exchanges, and boards of trade. Many Minnesota firms appear in the volume, but no geographical division of the listing is provided.

A MONUMENTAL STUDY of *Botanical Exploration of the Trans-Mississippi West* from 1790 to 1850 is presented by Susan Delano McKelvey in a bulky volume published by the Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University (1955. 1,144 p.). Of special interest to Minnesotans are accounts of Thomas Say, the naturalist who accompanied Stephen Long on his 1823 journey into the Minnesota and Red River valleys and eastward to Lake Superior; David B. Douglass, the botanist who traveled with the Cass expedition to the headwaters of the Mississippi in 1820; Douglass Houghton, who was with Schoolcraft in 1832; Karl A. Geyer, who accompanied Joseph N. Nicollet to the Minnesota country in 1838-39; and Maximilian, Prince of Wied, who ascended the Missouri to Fort McKenzie in 1833. The author points out that the so-called "Yellowstone Expedition" led by Long in 1819-20 was the first government-sponsored group "to include scientists."

Although Lewis and Clark did not have a trained botanist in their party, they nevertheless gathered 123 new species, "the first collected in lands acquired by the Louisiana Purchase and westward." Two British botanists—John Bradbury and Thomas Nuttall—further advanced the cause of botany in the West during the decade of 1810-20 by traveling, collecting, and later publishing valuable works on the Missouri Valley. Of interest, too, is material on Charles C. Parry, a member of David Dale Owen's

geological surveying party in Wisconsin, Iowa, and Nebraska, and on Howard Stansbury, who traversed a portion of the Oregon Trail in 1849.

The volume is divided by decades into sections, each with an informative introduction providing general historical background and biographical information on the botanists discussed. The author makes extensive use of quoted material from official reports, letters, and other original sources. The volume is thoroughly annotated and indexed. J.D.H.

IN THE *Minnesota Naturalist* for September, Herbert Krause offers a brief analysis of the "Ornithology of the Major Long Expedition, 1823." His study of the narratives of Long, William Keating, Edward Colhoun, and Count Giacomo Beltrami reveals lists of birds found at Fort Snelling, the Falls of St. Anthony, Minnehaha Falls, Swan Lake, Pembina, Fort William, and other points along the expedition's route. The lists, however, are casual, and there are no life histories or descriptions of habitat and population. Mr. Krause observes that members of the party gave scant attention to birds, but that the accounts do give a glimpse of Minnesota bird life in the 1820s. Of the fifty-three species mentioned, four are no longer found on their former nesting grounds, one (the passenger pigeon) is extinct, and one (the whooping crane) is almost extinct. An introductory note by Grace Lee Nute outlines the purposes and route of the expedition and comments on source material concerning it in the collections of the Minnesota Historical Society and the National Archives. L.K.

FIVE LETTERS written by Isaac I. Stevens in the 1850s, informing Senator Stephen Douglas of the progress of the expedition to survey a northern route for a railroad from St. Paul to the Pacific, have been edited by Robert W. Johannsen under the title "Reporting a Pacific Railroad Survey" in the October number of the *Pacific Northwest Quarterly*. In his introduction, Mr. Johannsen provides biographical information on Stevens, background data on the expedition, and an explanation of Douglas' interest in the railroad survey. The letters themselves, written en route and after Stevens arrived in Washington Territory, contain numerous side lights on the journey.

SOME NEW INFORMATION on the Gaultier de Varennes family and the ancestry of Pierre Gaultier de la Vérendrye is offered by R. P. Ant. Champagne in the April number of *Le bulletin des recherches historiques* of Quebec. The writer presents in French a discussion of "Documents

et renseignements inédits sur La Vérendrye et sa famille" and concludes, on the basis of evidence in the twelve documents, that the Gaultiers were not noblemen, but were members of the upper middle class of France who occupied numerous responsible positions.

FOUR "Swiss Painters of the American Indian" — Peter Rindischbacher, Friederich Kurz, Frank Buchser, and Karl Bodmer — are the subject of comment by Jakob R. Welti in the February issue of the *Swiss Review of World Affairs*, published at Zurich. The author notes that interest in Rindischbacher's work was revived "a few years ago" in Switzerland partly as a result of the translation of an article about him that appeared in the September, 1951, issue of *Minnesota History*. Considerable biographical information is given by Mr. Welti on Rindischbacher, who painted extensively in the Red River Valley during the early years of the nineteenth century, on Kurz who lived for some years at St. Louis, and on Buchser who traveled in the Lake Superior region about 1870. The author gives less attention to the work of Bodmer.

ONLY ONE EXAMPLE of the work of Louis Sullivan, "the father of modern architecture," is to be found in Minnesota, according to a recent book by John Szarkowski on *The Idea of Louis Sullivan* (University of Minnesota Press, 1956. 163 p. \$10.00.). It is the National Farmers Bank of Owatonna, designed by Sullivan in 1907, a building which Mr. Szarkowski says "has become a monument of modern architecture." It and many other buildings for which Sullivan served as architect are given sensitive coverage in this handsome volume. The architect's ideas and his philosophy are effectively presented by means of numerous photographs combined with quotations from his writings. A brief sketch of Sullivan's life is also included. F.U.

ORIGINALLY published in London in 1856, *The Red River Settlement: Its Rise, Progress, and Present State* by Alexander Ross is the fifth volume to appear in the series of reprints issued by Ross and Haines of Minneapolis (1957. 416 p. \$8.75). Ross's valuable book chronicles events in the Selkirk settlement from its beginnings in 1812 to about 1855. Jay Edgerton contributes an informative introduction to the new edition in which he provides background information on Ross's life and an evaluation of his writings.

AN ATTRACTIVE, illustrated pamphlet, containing *A Brief History of the Hudson's Bay Company* useful to students and teachers, has

been published by the company (47 p.). In it may be found readable, condensed information on the part played by Radisson and Groseilliers in the establishment of the company, the fur trading firm's struggles with the French, its competition and final union with the North West Company, the explorations of Henry Kelsey, Anthony Henday, and Samuel Hearne, the careers of Sir George Simpson and Donald A. Smith, the Selkirk settlement, the transfer of Rupert's Land to Canada, and the work of the company since 1869. The booklet also contains a selected bibliography.

THE CAREERS of four dissimilar men — Peter Pond, Manuel Lisa, John Jacob Astor, and Jim Bridger — are the fabric from which Vera Kelsey has woven a readable book entitled *Young Men So Daring* (Indianapolis, 1956, 288 p.). Miss Kelsey explains that these men were selected because "each working independently in pursuit of the beaver explored sections of the route to the western sea" and because "each of them made one great mistake." By means of lively sketches of Pond, Lisa, Astor, and Bridger, the author explores her theme — the relationship of fur-trade exploration to the creation of the northern and western boundaries of the United States.

THE STEPS taken by William G. Le Duc in 1877 to establish a bureau of animal industry in the United States department of agriculture are the subject of comment by B. W. Bierer in *A Short History of Veterinary Medicine in America* (1955, 113 p.). Although the bureau was not created until some years after Le Duc completed his term as commissioner of agriculture, the author says that the Minnesotan made "an excellent beginning." Le Duc is only one of the many officials, scientists, and animal raisers whose contributions to the advancement of veterinary medicine are reviewed in this readable survey.

THE CONTROVERSIAL EFFORTS of Archbishop John Ireland to provide religious education for Catholic children in his Minnesota archdiocese are placed in national perspective by John Tracy Ellis in a recent historical survey of *American Catholicism* (University of Chicago Press, 1956, 208 p.). The author also calls attention to Ireland's "warm support" of the founding of the Catholic University of America in 1889.

E. C. BECK is the author of *They Knew Paul Bunyan*, a recently published collection of lumberjack songs and poems (1956, 255 p.). The

author, who traveled widely in search of oral sources of logging folklore, expresses the opinion that "the concentration of good tales and songs has been in the Great Lakes lumber camps." The volume contains the texts, and occasionally the music, for sixty-seven songs and poems as well as numerous tales and legends collected in various parts of the United States. An entertaining introductory chapter provides background information on the shanty boys and on the origins of the Paul Bunyan legend. Mr. Beck maintains that three of his best informants "all swore they heard Bunyan stories in the 1880's."

THE TECHNIQUES used in making a "survey of sources for forest history in the St. Croix Valley" are set down by Helen McCann White as "Thoughts on Oral History" in the January number of the *American Archivist*. Mrs. White, who made the survey in 1955 for the Forest History Foundation of St. Paul, describes the preparation needed for interviews and lays down helpful rules for choosing reliable interviewees. She outlines her method of tape-recording oral history interviews and gives detailed suggestions for processing the results. The author also provides information on some legal aspects of the ownership and use of transcribed tape-recorded interviews.

A USEFUL "how-to-do-it" handbook for students, *The George Washington Key to Historical Research*, by Wood Gray and others has been issued by the George Washington University Bookstore (Washington, D.C., 1956, 57 p., \$.50.). In it, the authors provide helpful, simply written information on historical research methods. Included are discussions on choosing a subject, on how to use existing sources of information in the form of indexes, guides, catalogues, and other bibliographic tools, on criticism of sources, and on such techniques as note taking, filing, footnote form, and the final arrangement of material. The booklet also contains lists of general references and bibliographies.

A BIBLIOGRAPHY entitled *Forty-six Years: The Published Writings of Milo M. Quaife, 1910-1955* has been issued by the Algonquin Club of Detroit to honor Mr. Quaife and to call attention to his long career as a historical writer and editor (1956, 52 p.). The list was compiled by Mr. Quaife and edited by Joe L. Norris, who contributes a short biographical preface. Arranged chronologically by date of publication, the bibliography includes works edited by Mr. Quaife as well as original writings, book reviews, and other miscellaneous items.

INDIANS PAST AND PRESENT

A PERCEPTIVE and revealing examination of some conflicting "Myths That Hide the American Indian" is contributed by Oliver La Farge to the October number of *American Heritage*. The concept of the Indian as a noble savage and a child of nature is explored by the author, who shows that there were many variations among American Indian tribes and points out that it is unlikely any Indian ever exactly fitted these stereotypes. Twelve pages of impressive color illustrations accompany the article, and a useful map shows the distribution of tribes in North America about 1650. Of interest, too, is the appearance of a paper-back anthology of selections from recent issues of the same magazine entitled *The American Heritage Reader* (New York, 1956, 253 p.).

A NUMBER OF articles on various phases of Chippewa life have appeared recently. "Persistence in Chippewa Culture and Personality" is discussed by Ernestine Friedl in the October number of the *American Anthropologist*. The writer points out that members of this tribe have learned "to expect . . . continually changing circumstances" and that "such an expectation . . . has existed throughout Chippewa history." She concludes that an underlying lack of security has been a dominant factor in the development of many personality traits that have persisted among these Indians over the years.

The generally accepted theory, first put forward by Professor Albert E. Jenks in 1900, that the wild rice area had a high aboriginal population density is challenged by H. Clyde Wilson in "A New Interpretation of the Wild Rice District of Wisconsin," which appears in the December issue of the same magazine. The writer agrees that the Santee Sioux, the Chippewa, and some other tribes were rice gatherers, but he suggests that, in part, the population concentration found in the wild rice area by early French explorers was the result of pressure from the Iroquois and an attraction to the trading area of the French.

The short-lived culture of the Pembina band is described at length by Harold Hickerson in "The Genesis of a Trading Post Band: The Pembina Chippewa" in the fall issue of *Ethnohistory*. The author notes that fur traders' accounts place the date of Chippewa settlement near Pembina about 1800, but that the decline of the fur trade in the area soon destroyed the culture of this band. The article is thoroughly documented, and an extensive bibliography is appended.

The July number of the *Minnesota Archaeologist* contains an extended discussion of "Some Uses of Bone, Horn, Claws, and Teeth by Minnesota Ojibwa Indians" by Fred K. Blessing. Illustrations accompanying the article confirm the author's contention that the design of such objects was, in the historic period at least, largely functional rather than decorative. Most of the items pictured are from the author's personal collection.

Joseph B. Casagrande tells the story of "John Mink, Ojibwa Informant," in the December, 1955, issue of the *Wisconsin Archaeologist*. Mink, who died in the 1940s on the Lac Court Oreilles reservation in Wisconsin, contributed a vast amount of information on Chippewa customs, especially on the ceremonies of the Midewiwin, or Grand Medicine Society. Many of his remedies and feats of magic are described by the author. F. S. C.

THE TEXTS of some "Examples of American Indian Songs," translated by Frances Densmore, appear in the summer issue of *Perspectives USA*. Included are a few Teton Sioux, Mandan, and Hidatsa, and numerous Chippewa Mide songs. A note on "The Indian's Belief in the Friendliness of Nature" by Miss Densmore and a poet's appreciation of her work by Kenneth Rexroth appear in the same issue.

MINNESOTA'S Brown's Valley Man need no longer be considered an isolated archaeological find, in the opinion of Dr. Louis Powell of the St. Paul Science Museum. In "Browns Valley and Milnesand Similarities," a short article in the January issue of *American Antiquity*, Dr. Powell compares projectile points found in connection with the Brown's Valley skeleton with those discovered at the Milnesand site in New Mexico and suggests that both sets of points "stem from a similar tradition if they are not indeed identical." This conclusion is based primarily upon results obtained through the use of the new technique of "point profiles" developed by Dr. Powell and his associates. F. S. C.

THE MINNESOTA SCENE

A JOURNEY to the Vermilion Lake region of Minnesota in 1886 was the "first important scientific collecting trip into a wilderness region" made by the famous horticulturist and botanist, *Liberty Hyde Bailey*, according to a recently published biography by Philip Dorf (Cornell University Press, 1956, 259 p.). In addition to the brief account of Bailey's Minnesota visit, the book includes much anecdotal material about the colorful botanist, who died in 1954.

IN NORTHERN Minnesota a "new empire" is "being carved out of an old frontier," writes C. B. Palmer in an article entitled "Into the Wilderness: The Taconite Trail" in the November 11 issue of the *New York Times Magazine*. The author describes life in the new towns of Babbitt and Silver Bay and outlines some of the changes that taconite has made in the economy of the area. The Reserve Mining Company's plant on the north shore of Lake Superior and the company-built towns of Babbitt and Silver Bay are shown in accompanying illustrations.

GEORGE and Allen Rossman of the *Grand Rapids Herald-Review* have continued the tradition established by their late father, L. A. Rossman, whose custom it was to write and print pamphlets on northern Minnesota for distribution at Christmas. The Rossmans' 1956 booklet deals with *The Chippewa National Forest* (24 p.). It contains a historical sketch of the forest region, a map of the area, and comprehensive descriptions of its present facilities and the game and fish found there.

SOME OF Minnesota's scenic attractions and manufacturing companies are described and pictured by Jose Olguin in a series of articles on "Minnesota y Sus Dos Ciudades Gemelas," appearing in the October 4 issue of *Todo*, a Mexican picture magazine. The author tells of his visit to the state in 1956 and devotes a number of pages to his impressions of Minneapolis and St. Paul, giving special attention to such companies as Minneapolis Honeywell, Maico, and D. W. Onan and Sons, Inc., which have close commercial relations with Mexico.

THE VARIED EXPERIENCES of an Episcopalian clergyman's family in southern Minnesota and South Dakota are described by Phyllis Stark, wife of Bishop Leland Stark of Newark, New Jersey, in *I Chose a Parson* (Oxford University Press, 1956. 240 p.). Mrs. Stark tells of her college days at Gustavus Adolphus in St. Peter, where she met her future husband, and gives readers an entertaining glimpse into her life as a pastor's wife at New Ulm, Stillwater, and Sioux Falls.

THE RICH historical background of "Frontenac on Lake Pepin" is traced by Grace Lee Nute in the *Minnesota Naturalist* for March, 1956. After calling attention to descriptions of the Lake Pepin region in the writings of Father Louis Hennepin, Joseph N. Nicollet, and others, the author gives special attention to the settlement of the region, to the founding of Westervelt—later to be renamed Frontenac—and

to the arrival there of the Garrard family in the 1850s. The homes built by this family, and some of the well-known people who patronized the little town's famous St. Hubert's Lodge are also mentioned. The same issue of the magazine contains an article on a proposed "Frontenac State Park" by Albert M. Marshall. A useful map, showing the many historic sites in the area, is included.

DISCOVERY OF the initials of a Minnesotan carved on a tree near Warrenton, North Carolina, during the Civil War set off a search recently for information on the carver, William M. Davis of the Fourth Minnesota Volunteers. Raymond Crippen tells the interesting story of the search and gives information on Davis, a pioneer Murray County farmer, in the issue of the *Worthington Daily Globe* for September 19.

HIGH LIGHTS in the sixty years of *Brown & Bigelow's Life Since 1896* are recorded in an illustrated pamphlet recently published by the St. Paul firm (1956. 55 p.). Colorful biographies of the company's founder, Herbert H. Bigelow, his silent partner, Hiram D. Brown, and the firm's present head, Charles A. Ward, appear, along with information on the organization's rapid growth and its achievements in the specialty advertising field. Of particular interest are illustrations of some of the company's products, showing representative art work and type faces used since 1896.

UNDER THE TITLE "Significant Memorial to 'The Last Man,'" a statue of Albert Woolson of Duluth, recently erected on the Gettysburg battlefield, is described in the fall number of the *Lincoln Herald*, published by Lincoln Memorial University at Harrogate, Tennessee. The work of sculptor Avard Fairbanks, the statue honoring Woolson was unveiled on September 12, 1956.

A SHORT HISTORY of the founding and early days of Breckenridge by Chet Gewalt appears in the September 13 issue of the *Gazette-Telegram*, published at Breckenridge. Mr. Gewalt cites various sources to show that the town was surveyed and platted in 1857 by a company of townsite speculators headed by George Brott and E. D. Mortimer of St. Paul.

IN "The Town That Vanished," Matt Saari tells the story of the decline of Beaver and Whitewater Falls, in the roto section of the *Minneapolis Tribune* of October 14. The disappearance of the thriving farms and villages that existed in the Whitewater River Valley fifty

years ago, says Saari, is dramatic evidence of the far-reaching social consequences of soil erosion caused by improper farming methods. Accompanying illustrations contrast the neat farms and the village of Beaver fifty years ago with the bleak wilderness on their sites today. Six paintings from the George Catlin collection in the American Museum of Natural History, exhibited recently at the Kennedy Galleries in New York City, are reproduced in the same issue. The paintings include a view of the Falls of St. Anthony done by Catlin in 1835 on his first trip to Minnesota.

A BOOKLET *Introducing Good Thunder's New Medical Center*, published recently by Good Thunder Area Developments, Inc., contains information on the building of the town's medical center in 1956, anecdotes about Good Thunder, the Sioux chief for whom the village in Blue Earth County was named, and the texts of letters from Henry H. Sibley and Bishop Henry Whipple attesting to Chief Good Thunder's character (24 p.).

THE Cook County Historical Society observed the centennial of the establishment of post offices at Grand Portage and Grand Marais by sponsoring a dinner and exhibit on November 10 at the Grand Marais high school. Included in the display were stamp collections, portraits of postmasters, and photographs of some of the dog sleds, steamers, and stagecoaches that have been used to carry mail in the area.

THE RESTORATION by the local Grange chapter of "Hilltop Church of Mantorville" for use as a museum by the Dodge County Historical Society is reviewed in the *Minneapolis Star* of November 22. Included is a brief account of the construction of the church in 1869 as a memorial to Mr. and Mrs. Peter S. Ruth. The building is described and pictured, and some information on the county society's collections is presented.

IN ITS ISSUE for December 19 the *Daily Journal*, published at International Falls, calls attention to the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of Koochiching County. In an article entitled "Founded by Proclamation December 19, 1906," based partly upon the recollections of Frank S. Lang, first Koochiching County register of deeds, the events connected with the formation of the county are described. The names of early county officers are given.

THE McLeod County Historical Society recently purchased the home of Mrs. Addie Christ-

lieb of Hutchinson for use as a museum. The group plans to remodel the building to house its collections.

THE Olmsted County Historical Society has acquired the building of the Bethel English Lutheran Church at Rochester for use as a museum. Olmsted County commissioners have voted to appropriate twenty thousand dollars as a down payment on the building, which is to be a memorial to veterans of the county. The society's new quarters are to be vacated about July 1, and the group will move in as soon as the necessary remodeling can be done. The building will give the county society expanded quarters and a museum advantageously located in the center of Rochester.

ABOUT a hundred persons took part in a tour of the upper Minnesota River Valley sponsored by the Yellow Medicine County Historical Society on September 29. The tourists visited many spots associated with the Sioux Outbreak of 1862.

BEYOND STATE BOUNDARIES

AN INTERESTING and thorough biography of a distinguished Iowan, entitled *William Boyd Allison: A Study in Practical Politics*, by Leland L. Sage has been published by the State Historical Society of Iowa (1956. 401 p.). Allison of Dubuque represented his state in Congress longer than any other Iowan—from 1863 to 1871 in the House and from 1873 to 1908 in the Senate. During that time, he exerted a powerful influence on national politics. Of special interest to Minnesotans is the valuable material included in this volume on William Windom. Professor Sage touches on Windom's role in the Republican party during the post-Civil War era, first as a senator from Minnesota and later as secretary of the treasury under Presidents Garfield and Harrison.

R. W. F.

A GROWING RECOGNITION of the role of the photographer as historian has been evident in recent years. Indicative of the trend is a small volume, entitled *Frontier Photographer: Stanley J. Morrow's Dakota Years* by Wesley R. Hurt and William E. Lass, issued under the joint imprint of the University of South Dakota and the University of Nebraska Press (1956. 135 p.). The authors have made extensive use of quotations from newspaper accounts and Morrow's own writings to tell the story of his photographic travels to the forts and Indian agencies along the Missouri River from Yankton to Helena during the years from 1860 to

1881. The book contains more than a hundred examples of Morrow's work from the University of South Dakota's collection of stereoscopic slides, including many fine portraits of Plains Indians and a few revealing pictures of their way of life. Chapter 2 on "Pioneer Photography" goes into some detail on the methods used by early photographers like Morrow, who got his training under Mathew Brady during the Civil War. Although the offset reproductions are not always as clear as one might wish, the authors have achieved their goal of bringing together characteristic scenes that reveal "the struggles of pioneer life in Dakota Territory as words alone could never do." E.D.B.

ALTHOUGH the Socialist party existed in North Dakota for only a comparatively short time in the early years of the twentieth century, its influence was far-reaching, declares Jackson Putnam, writing under the title "The Role of NDSP in North Dakota History," in the fall number of the *North Dakota Quarterly*. The author maintains that the Socialists were effective in paving the way for the success of the Nonpartisan League, which swept into power in North Dakota in the 1920s. Arthur C. Townley, founder of the league, and other North Dakota politicians, says Mr. Putnam, received their political training in the Socialist party.

A PENETRATING STUDY of the Russian Mennonite colonies of Manitoba is presented by E. K. Francis in a recently published volume entitled *In Search of Utopia* (Glencoe, Illinois, 1955, 294 p.). Tracing the history of these people from their immigration to Canada in the 1870s through World War II, the author describes the colonies' efforts to retain their traditions in the face of changing conditions. The book contains numerous charts, maps, and tables and is packed with detailed, documented information on the Manitoba group's institutions, co-operative and communal way of life, customs, social organization, and farming methods. Also included is a discussion of the causes of Mennonite emigration, data on the group's negotiations with the United States and Canada, information on the immigrants' route through Minnesota to the Manitoba lands set aside for them, and details of the Mennonites' agreement with the Canadian government and the subsequent conflict over it. Considerable space is devoted also to the attitudes of other Manitoba residents toward the Mennonites.

A PORTION of an address by Professor Roy Drier of the Michigan College of Mining and Technology on "Prehistoric Copper Mining in

the Lake Superior District" appears in the October 27 number of *Skilling's Mining Review*. In it, the author outlines briefly the story of copper on Isle Royale and the Keweenaw Peninsula of Michigan, calling attention to the mining activities of Alexander Henry and Douglass Houghton. He is primarily concerned, however, with the unknown prehistoric miners of the region, whose pits are believed to be at least three thousand years old. He describes and pictures the tools used by these ancient people, and he discusses the mining techniques they employed. Professor Drier reports that an estimated million or more pounds of copper were removed by these early miners in a cubic mile of excavation.

NEWS OF THE SOCIETY

THE 1957 annual meeting of the society will be held on May 24 and 25. The role of the newspaper in the history of Minnesota will be discussed by Ralph Keller, manager of the Minnesota Editorial Association, at a dinner meeting on the evening of May 24. An institute for members of county historical societies will again be a feature of the annual meeting program. The first session of the institute will be devoted to a discussion of the preservation and marking of historic sites, the second, to plans for the statehood centennial celebration in 1958. Further information on the details of the meeting will be sent to members of the society in the near future.

CARL W. JONES of Minneapolis, president of the society from 1954 to 1956, died at his home on January 5 after a long illness. In an editorial commenting on his death, the *Minneapolis Star* of January 7 recalled that he often said, "History writes the future." The editor remarked that "It would be well if the future provides more individuals of the fine type of Mr. Jones." During his term of office, Mr. Jones undertook the much-needed task of raising funds to enable the society to catalogue and make available its large picture collection. That project, when completed, will stand as a permanent memorial to his foresight and judgment. His loyalty, enthusiasm, and intelligent leadership in the cause of history will be sorely missed.

THE THREE-YEAR project launched by Mr. Jones to organize and catalogue the backlog of pictorial material in the society's collections got off to a successful start in 1956. The project has as its goal the raising of eighteen thousand dollars to be used over a three-year period to hire two cataloguers for the picture department.

Although this goal was not attained during the first year, sufficient funds were obtained to begin work. In all, twenty-five thousand items, largely photographs, were reviewed by the end of the year. Almost half of these pictures were retained and catalogued to enrich the society's permanent collection.

THE TEXT of Judge Gunnar Nordbye's decision of October 8 in United States District Court at Minneapolis in the suit to quiet title to Captain William Clark's field notes may be found in the winter issue of *Manuscripts*. An introductory statement provides background information on the case, and explains that "only the procedural matters" have been deleted from the published version of Judge Nordbye's opinion.

THE SPRING dinner meeting of the Upper Midwest History Conference will be held at the Historical Building on April 27. The Very Reverend James P. Shannon, president of the College of St. Thomas, will deliver a paper based on his forthcoming book dealing with Catholic colonization on the western frontier.

THE SOCIETY'S Women's Organization will sponsor a lecture by Professor William Anderson of the department of political science in the University of Minnesota in the Weyerhaeuser Room on April 3 at 8:15 P.M. Professor Anderson's subject will be "Minnesota Frames a Constitution." Members and friends of the society are cordially invited to attend.

MATERIALS from the society's collections and its latest book received attention in recent pictorial articles in Twin Cities newspapers. A number of the illustrations used in the reprint edition of William W. Folwell's *History of Minnesota* appeared with appropriate comment in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* of January 6 under the title "New Look at Folwell's History." Photographs from the current exhibit on "The Story of the State Capitol" were the basis for an article in the *Picture Magazine* of the *Minneapolis Tribune* on January 13, and eight early Valentines from the society's large collection were reproduced in color in the issue of the same paper for February 10 to illustrate "Different Ways of Saying 'Be My Valentine.'"

THE SOCIETY recently made a number of unusual additions to its rare book collection. Among them is an edition of Hennepin's *Nouveau voyage* (Utrecht, 1698) with handsome hand-colored plates, and the second volume of Garcilaso de la Vega's *Histoire des Incas rois*

du Perou, published at Amsterdam in 1737, which contains a little known version of Hennepin's *Découverte d'un pays*. A newly acquired French edition of Jonathan Carver's *Travels*, published at Tours in 1850 under the title *Aventures de Carver chez les sauvages*, gives the society nineteen of the thirty-nine known editions of this important work. The rare book collection was also enriched by the acquisition of a first edition of Frederic Baraga's *Dictionary of the Ojibwe Language Explained in English*, published at Cincinnati in 1853, and by two unique items—the only known extant copy of J. Buxton Murray's *New Guide for Emigrants to the Western States of North America* (Glasgow, 1843), and the only known perfect copy of *The Far West: A Sketch of Illinois and Other States in the Valley of the Mississippi* (Bolton-Le-Moors, England, 1842).

ABOUT A hundred manuscripts documenting the history of the Carpenter, Griswold, and Welles families from 1691 to the present have been presented to the society by Mrs. Elbert L. Carpenter, Lawrence W., and Leonard G. Carpenter of Minneapolis. The papers consist of correspondence, notes, deeds, agreements, property inventories, and miscellaneous items containing historical and genealogical data on the three families and on the allied Harris and Pillsbury lines.

MR. DUNN has given to the society a copy-book kept by John A. Johnson of Marine, containing letters written by him in 1901 as a European representative of the Minneapolis, St. Paul and Sault Ste. Marie Railway Company. The letters provide information on the distribution to ticket agents in England, Norway, Sweden, and Denmark of Soo Line folders describing the country served by the road, arrangements on behalf of the Soo with European ticket agents, and suggestions for promotional activities to attract immigrants to North Dakota. Most of the letters were written to officials of the railroad, to members of Johnson's family, and to newspapers in the Twin Cities.

AN ACCOUNT of the life of her father, the Reverend Henry Whipple St. Clair, has been presented to the society by Mrs. Max Eller of Minneapolis. Mrs. Eller writes of her father's French and Sioux ancestry, his childhood near Faribault, his education at Shattuck School, his training for the Episcopal ministry, his service at churches in Minnesota and South Dakota, and the personal and religious associations of the St. Clair family with Bishop Henry B. Whipple.



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