

With Lamps Burning. By SISTER M. GRACE McDONALD, O.S.B. (Saint Joseph, Minnesota, Saint Benedict's Priory Press, 1957. 329 p. Illustrations. \$5.00.)

Reviewed by James P. Shannon

SHORTLY before his untimely death in 1938, Marcus Hansen recommended to writers of American history the kind of sharp-focus, intensive regional studies which would reveal what became of immigrants in the New World and what contributions they made to American society. In the present volume, Sister Grace McDonald follows Hansen's advice in a most felicitous manner and with admirable results.

This book deserves commendation for several reasons. Its pervasive but restrained religious motif, its judicious use of illustrative anecdotes, its fine blend of serious narrative with humorous relief, and its smooth prose deserve both mention and praise. Would that all histories of religious orders reflected this delicate balance between sound historical research and devout loyalty to religious ideals.

Within 286 pages, Sister Grace manages to relate with skill and zeal the religious odyssey of the three sisters of St. Benedict who left their convent in Eichstaett, Bavaria, in 1852, for the mission fields of Pennsylvania; the subsequent shift of a portion of the community to Minnesota in 1857; and the final period of maturity and growth achieved by the Sisters of St. Benedict after their settlement in 1863 at St. Joseph in Stearns County.

The story of the Benedictine nuns in Minnesota is a microcosm of the cultural and religious coming of age of the upper Midwest. Old world memories of lay hostility to the sisters, the hazards of establishing a decent hospital in frontier Bismarck in 1885, the constant problem of raising pedagogical standards for the schools

staffed by the sisters, and the tensions arising between English-speaking Americans and a religious community which continued to use the German language for its daily prayers and devotions until 1919 are told with candor and a fine appreciation of the relationship between this religious foundation and secular American society.

Readers who are acquainted with the complexities and intricacies of ecclesiastical canon law will appreciate the clarity and simplicity with which the author threads her way through this *terra incognita* as she describes the continuing and eventually successful efforts of the American Benedictine sisters to establish a union of their widely separated convents and priories.

Students of medical history will appreciate the stimulating and intelligible chapter with its graphic description of the rigors of surgery on the Dakota frontier in 1885. Surgeons wearing white cotton gloves and rubber boots sloshed pailfuls of water over open wounds during operations in an age which had not yet accepted Lister's findings on the need for asepsis in surgery.

The central narrative, which is carefully maintained throughout the book, is that of the founding and growth of St. Benedict's Convent at St. Joseph, Minnesota. From this vigorous religious center, teaching and nursing sisters have gone out to found new priories at Atchison, Kansas; Duluth and St. Paul, Minnesota; Bismarck, North Dakota; Eau Claire, Wisconsin; and Olympia, Washington. As the scriptural metaphor of the title suggests, these dedicated women have carried with them the religious conviction and motivation which made possible the heroic sacrifices asked of them in western America or in foreign lands.

Sister Philomena Ketten as a teacher in the Chippewa Indian school at White Earth regularly rode sixteen miles each day on horseback to reach her tiny classroom in the forest. Occasionally an ill-tempered horse deposited her firmly in the dust on some portion of the journey. Ten days after the bombing of Pearl Harbor in 1941, the Benedictine sisters in Japan were interned for the duration of World War II. At the end

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of hostilities in 1945, they were overjoyed to receive their first Red Cross packages. Each package contained two khaki shirts and a carton of cigarettes.

Even those readers who do not share the author's religion will perceive in this book the central and vital importance of the liturgy in the houses of St. Benedict. Throughout all the years that rude frontier accommodations and increasing educational demands made it impossible for the sisters to chant the Divine Office, the community planned for the day when this primary monastic privilege would be restored. Finally on Christmas Day in 1926 the sisters at St. Benedict's were able to chant the regular Office for the first time in chapel. One might say in summary that this achievement began the modern period of maturity for the Benedictine sisters in Minnesota.

The motto of their venerable founder was *Ora et Labora*, "Pray and Work." The present volume presents with sensitivity and conviction the admirable story of how St. Benedict's daughters have fulfilled this twofold admonition during their first century in Minnesota.

POPULAR HISTORY

Minnesota Panorama: Saga of the North Star Empire. By H. NAT JOHNSON. Illustrations by Oz BLACK. (Minneapolis, T. S. Denison & Co., 1957. 48 p. Cloth, \$3.00; paper, \$1.50.)

Reviewed by A. Hermina Poatgieter

ONE of the many publications issued in observance of Minnesota's centennial year is this story of the state's development by H. Nat Johnson. Although it is so condensed that many aspects of the subject can be treated only briefly, yet the book does review the span of Minnesota's history.

The account begins with the formation of the land — its underground minerals and its surface features — in past geological eras. The life of the Indians and the coming of the explorers and fur traders is followed by a description of early settlement in the area. After discussing the purchase by the United States of land from the Sioux and Chippewa tribes, the author touches

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on the establishment of government and the growth of cities and industries. The story closes with a glimpse of possible future developments in Minnesota.

The value of the work is greatly enhanced by the wash drawings of Oz Black, former cartoonist of the *Minneapolis Star*. Every page has one or more attractive sketches. Simple maps, such as those showing Indian land cessions, the Northwest Angle, and the formation of the territory and later of the state, help to clarify complex historical situations.

This book will appeal to adults with a non-technical interest in the state's history and to school children seeking a short general survey of the subject. The author, who is educational adviser in the state department of conservation, has for many years written "Conservation Trails." This program series in the Minnesota School of the Air is broadcast over KUOM, the University of Minnesota's radio station.

MINNETONKA STORY

Once Upon a Lake: A History of Lake Minnetonka and its People. By THELMA JONES. (Minneapolis, Ross and Haines, Inc., 1957. 285 p. \$4.95.)

Reviewed by Grace Lee Nute

THE SUBTITLE of this book is "A History of Lake Minnetonka and its People," and in the preface the author states: "I believe I have employed all the existing published source material on Lake Minnetonka." A reader might rightfully expect, therefore, to find in the volume a genuine history. He will be disappointed. If the author has used "all the existing published source material" in the preparation of the book, she has not shared it with her readers. Much of her information comes from reminiscences of or conversations with pioneers, or, in most instances, their descendants, since the original explorers and settlers, hotel owners and tourists, steamboat owners and captains have long since gone the way of all flesh. Some slight use has been made of primary source materials like A. S. Dimond's newspapers, a few Twin City news-

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paper issues, Mrs. Nellie Wright's family papers including a diary, Martin McLeod's diary, and a few others. By and large, however, Mrs. Jones has been content with secondary data, frequently of questionable accuracy.

There is no consecutive account of the exploration, naming, settlement, and development of the region about Lake Minnetonka. Instead, the author devotes practically the entire book to individuals. In haphazard fashion they tell their reactions to the lake and to life on its shores in very early days. Many of the stories are reported in the first person singular. They afford chatty, informal monologues, calculated to delineate unusual characters proper for a novel, but at best giving only a vague and blurred picture of a few events and persons in Minnetonka's history.

There is almost nothing in the book on Minnetonka's story after the turn of the century; six of the ten or so decades of the lake's first century are largely unaccounted for. Very little information is offered on the several colonies that settled near the lake; early logging, rafting, and milling; bee culture, vineyards, farming, and horticulture; berry and small-fruit raising with their interesting marketing experiments; the bicycle age with its cycle paths, clubs, and competitions; sailboating, iceboating, regattas, races, commodores, and boating clubs; fishing; great tennis tournaments; summer and other theatricals, with famous troupes as performers in many instances; the ornithological significance of the region where Dr. Thomas Roberts and other outstanding scientists in that field gathered some of their earliest data; the development of the tourist trade through the systematic efforts of such men as James J. Hill; the Empire Builder's railroad, his renowned stock farm on Crystal Bay, and his and W. F. Davidson's navigation company—little or nothing on all these topics and on many others that might be mentioned.

All in all, this is a disappointing book, despite the rather bizarre characters and events that claim the author's chief attention, and about which she writes in sprightly, staccato fashion. Twenty-nine pages of excellent pictures of Minnetonka scenes fill the center of the book. There is no index. This is the first original volume to be published by Ross and Haines, Incorporated. Hitherto the company has devoted itself to republishing older, out-of-print classics in Northwest history.

GOVERNMENT AND SCIENCE

Science in the Federal Government: A History of Policies and Activities to 1940. By A. HUNTER DUPREE. (Cambridge, The Belknap Press of Harvard University Press, 1957. x, 460 p. \$7.50.)

Reviewed by James B. Rhoads

IT IS a coincidence that this excellent history of the federal government's scientific activities should appear just at a time when our government's relationships with the scientific world are receiving the closest scrutiny in our history. Today many Americans are disturbed by the lack of emphasis that has been given science by the government; they feel that a tremendous increase in federal scientific activities must take place in the immediate future. In fact, for almost the first time in our history there is no vocal opposition to an extension of federal activity in this area.

The present situation is a far cry from that of the early days of our existence as an independent state. Then, science was the hobby of well-to-do intellectuals, and few in that pastoral era felt that the central government had any need or even any right to promote science, let alone to incorporate scientific pursuits into the framework of government.

The great advances in technology and their effect on industry, commerce, agriculture, and the everyday life of the individual have naturally and irresistibly led to a situation in which the government cannot ignore science, nor science the government. Scientific advances have played their part in creating an atmosphere in which the people demand big government—the only question is how big. And the concurrent trend has been for government to increase its interest in and patronage of the sciences.

Dr. Dupree notes that this was a gradual and often faltering development, hampered sometimes by open opposition, but oftener by inertia and the inability to foresee the benefits that government-sponsored scientific projects might bring forth. The federal government has, however, been fortunate in having as its servants perceptive and dedicated men who saw the true interest that the government had in science. Thomas Jefferson, John Quincy Adams, Mat-

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thew F. Maury, Alexander D. Bache, Joseph Henry, John Wesley Powell, and Harvey W. Wiley are just a few of the outstanding ones that might be named.

Exploring, surveying, and mapping were the major scientific activities in which the federal government engaged during its early years, and even these basic activities were subject to criticism. The establishment of the Coast Survey, the Smithsonian Institution, and the National Academy of Sciences illustrates the gradual broadening of federal scientific interests. Each war has, in varying degree, increased the scope of government science although, as a rule, the postwar periods saw a partial, but not complete, retrogression to the prewar status. Efforts to consolidate all scientific agencies into one executive department at cabinet level have more than once been rebuffed. Such a consolidation may now seem as anachronistic as a department of typewriting, so closely is some form of science related to the activities of most government agencies.

This book tells the story of the development of scientific agencies and activities in the federal government, and of the men and ideals behind that development. The author's painstaking research, both in printed and manuscript sources, has resulted in a well-documented and accurate study. It is not, of course, an exhaustive one, but it does provide a good survey of the history of science in the federal government. It points up the need for further research in a much-neglected area of United States history. The wealth of unpublished material on the subject, especially the records of scientific agencies in the National Archives, needs to be more fully explored. This storehouse of unutilized knowledge should stand, says Dr. Dupree, "as a challenge to the present generation of historians."

PETROLEUM GIANT

Enterprise in Oil: A History of Shell in the United States. By KENDALL BEATON. (New York, Appleton-Century-Crofts, Inc., 1957. xiii, 815 p. Illustrations, maps. \$7.50.)

Reviewed by Muriel E. Hidy

BASED both on a company's business records and interviews with its employees, Mr. Beaton's book makes a real contribution to the literature on the oil industry. His volume traces the story

of Shell in the United States from its beginning in 1912 to 1950.

After going over the somewhat familiar ground of the early history of petroleum in the United States, the author gives a concise but lively account of Shell's foreign forerunners, founded by Dutch and English businessmen in the Far East. Some differences of interpretation exist between this reviewer and the author on the early history of Standard Oil and its relations with the Dutch oilman, Hendrik Deterding, but none on the ability of the latter, the ingenuity of Marcus Samuel, or the dramatic rise of the Royal Dutch-Shell group of companies.

The rapid development of the American part of the organization is sketched in time intervals, often of five years, with emphasis on different phases of the industry. Starting with the importation of Sumatra gasoline for sale in the Northwest, the account moves quickly through Shell's acquisition of its first producing properties in California and Oklahoma to the achievement of a fully integrated organization performing all functions of the petroleum industry, including marketing in a broad geographic area. The subsequent course of the larger business is then followed.

In covering so broad a subject the author has needed to select his own emphasis. He does not ignore employee relations, financial policy, corporate relationships, and business administration, but he gives these subjects less analysis than some readers might wish. On the other hand, his treatment of the technical aspects of the industry, particularly in exploring for crude oil and refining it, are both expert and understandable to the layman. His discussion of petroleum chemistry is especially lucid.

Detailed attention has been given to Shell's marketing history. The reader will be interested in the story behind the familiar yellow and red service stations, including those in the Twin Cities. Readers in Winona will be startled to find their city in Wisconsin, a rare slip which is not indicative of the careful scholarship of the author. In a pleasant narrative style he has reminded us of some developments in our own times and added to our knowledge of a major industry.

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ARID GREAT PLAINS

Dry Farming in the Northern Great Plains, 1900-1925. By MARY WILMA M. HARGREAVES. (Cambridge, Harvard University Press, 1957. xi, 587 p. Maps, tables. \$10.00.)

Reviewed by William S. Greever

THE arid Great Plains, at first believed to be only a useless desert and later valued as a gigantic cattle pasture, eventually attracted farmers. Initially, they thought they could raise crops successfully only by irrigation, but the absence of enough water to fill all their projected ditches forced them to try a quite different form of cultivation based on various moisture-preserving techniques. As agriculturalists experimented and scientists adopted a negative wait-and-see attitude, promoters of settlement fashioned tentative methods into the dry-farming movement. They used it as propaganda to hasten homeseekers into eastern Montana and the western Dakotas as rapidly as possible, while talking much of experimentation and education but accomplishing little.

Faced with no wise, tested, thorough program of dry farming, neither homeseekers, railroad companies, landowners, local communities, states, nor real-estate brokers were willing to wait until the necessarily slow scientists evolved one. Regional promoters fought vigorously all efforts to restrain settlement. They were unimpressed with the federal department of agriculture's successful search abroad for drought-resistant varieties of crops, because the lack of any market demand made unattractive the tillage of the new species. They achieved a large measure of success in the agricultural development of dry lands, if measured in terms of total production by 1925. Their success was less impressive if the great suffering inflicted by the various drought years is analyzed for its effect on individuals, commercial organizations, and social institutions of the region. By 1925 it was not yet clear whether the Great Plains area could be permanently farmed.

This detailed monograph, for the serious student rather than the general reader, is thorough, impartial, well balanced, thoughtful in its conclusions, clear in its presentation, and based

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on source material impressive in variety and quantity. It is an important contribution on a major aspect of American agricultural history, fortunately to be followed by a second volume covering the period from 1925 to 1950.

LUMBERING HISTORY

The Daniel Shaw Lumber Company: A Case Study of the Wisconsin Lumbering Frontier. By ARTHUR R. REYNOLDS. (New York, New York University Press, 1957. x, 177 p. \$5.00.)

Reviewed by Robert F. Fries

HISTORIES of business concerns have become commonplace publishing items within the last decade or so. This is a rather unusual company history which was not paid for by the organization as an anniversary piece. It is the work of a well-trained scholar who had the almost complete records of a single firm with which to work. It covers the story of a business house, which, if not entirely typical, was characteristic of the many medium-sized concerns that helped develop the natural resources of the frontier. And it skillfully utilizes the experiences of this firm to throw light on the kind of operations conducted in one of the most important lumbering areas of the nineteenth century.

The company whose history is discussed was founded as a small logging and milling business at Eau Claire, Wisconsin, by Daniel Shaw, who migrated from New York in 1856. Though subsequently reorganized as a partnership and a corporation, the business remained a family enterprise until it was terminated in 1912 when its timber supply was exhausted. Its capitalization never exceeded five hundred thousand dollars, and it never completely solved the problem of securing adequate credit, but, because of the devoted managerial ability of its founder and his son Eugene, it remained to the day of its dissolution one of the most "solid" of the lumber companies in the Middle West.

This small book adds little to our knowledge of lumbering operations in general, but the author's device of outlining them from the view-

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point of a single company gives the reader a sense of immediacy that even a confirmed addict of lumbering history will find refreshing. Professor Reynolds, a former research assistant for the Forest Products History Foundation in St. Paul, has made the most of well-rounded background information and an excellent bibliography to blend the story of the Daniel Shaw Lumber Company felicitously into its economic environment. To the reader with a special interest in midwestern lumbering history, the chapter on marketing procedures, with its convenient data on prices and pricing, will undoubtedly be most useful. To the student of general frontier history, the chapter on sources of credit will certainly be invaluable. Altogether, the work is a most convenient addition to the business history of the Middle West.

WISCONSIN MANUSCRIPTS

Guide to the Manuscripts of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin: Supplement Number One. By JOSEPHINE L. HARPER and SHARON C. SMITH. (Madison, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1957. xii, 222 p. \$5.00.)

Reviewed by Lucile M. Kane

IN 1944 the State Historical Society of Wisconsin issued a guide to manuscripts describing about eight hundred collections that had come to the institution from 1849 to 1941. The store of research material has grown rapidly since that time, for *Supplement Number One* lists 790 groups of papers added from 1941 to 1956.

The present guide includes personal papers, records of organizations, archives of the federal government, and microfilm copies of collections in other libraries. Outstanding among the personal papers are those of Richard T. Ely, Philip F. LaFollette, and Robert M. LaFollette, Sr. Important, too, are the records collected in surveys conducted in recent years. For example, a project in labor history, inaugurated in 1947, brought to the society union records and personal papers relating to the labor movement in Wisconsin, and a similar effort in the field of medical history, begun in 1951, added a substantial number of personal papers and records of medical societies.

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A few types of records included in the first guide are omitted in the supplement. Since the archives division of the society assumed control of the state's public records in 1947, the supplement does not describe them. It also omits listings of manuscript genealogies, single biographies, and autograph collections.

The compilers have divided the supplement into two sections. The first part contains descriptions of catalogued collections; the second lists papers received but not yet processed. The numbering of collections is continued from the first guide. Thus, the final entry in the first guide is number 802, and the supplement begins with number 803. The concise descriptions include the title of each collection, its quantity, inclusive dates, and subject matter, and, when the material is an addition to a collection listed in the first guide, a reference to the item number there.

Dr. Harper and Miss Smith have compiled an excellent guide. It is a fitting sequel to the first volume and an outstanding contribution to the growing reference literature on American manuscripts.

GUIDE TO FRENCH SOURCES

The French in North America: A Bibliographical Guide to French Archives, Reproductions, and Research Missions. By HENRY PUTNEY BEERS. (Baton Rouge, Louisiana State University Press, 1957. 413 p. \$12.50.)

Reviewed by W. L. Morton

THIS valuable work is exactly described in its subtitle. The concept of the book is sound, and Mr. Beers has realized that concept with sustained thoroughness. Every research student with occasion to use the French sources of North American history will find it a convenient and reliable aid. The author's judicious tone and sober pace are matched by the meticulousness of his references and annotations. The scholarly apparatus is adequate and reassuring.

Mr. Beers deals first with materials on American history in the French archives, then with the historians of American diplomatic relations

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with France from Jared Sparks on. The historians of the French regime in America are discussed. Chapters follow on the French documents and reproductions to be found in the collections of state historical societies and in the Carnegie Institution and the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C. The expository and analytical chapters are concluded with one on Canadian historians and institutions—archives, publication societies, etc. The book also contains a chapter of conclusions, an appendix listing French representatives in the United States from 1778 to 1811, a chronological list of investigations of the French archives, and a seventy-page bibliography.

The *Guide* is often more than a guide. This reader was grateful for the incidental history of the great state historical societies offered in its pages, and also for the opportunity of meeting such vigorous collectors of documents as Charles C. A. Gayarré of Louisiana and John R. Brodhead of New York. Minnesota was "on the outer fringe of French activity" in America, Mr. Beers says, and relatively little space is given to the Minnesota Historical Society. The work of Grace Lee Nute in investigating French sources, however, is adequately noted and properly valued. It is also a pleasure to meet the somewhat mysterious Pierre A. Margry, editor of many French documents of American history, although Mr. Beers perhaps leaves the reader somewhat uncertain as to the real character of Margry's work.

A Canadian reviewer may perhaps be excused for saying that it is not immediately apparent to him why so little attention should have been paid to Champlain and his works, and indeed to those of other early historians of the French regime, such as Sagard and Du Creux. These, as well as Champlain's writings, are available in the volumes of the Champlain Society. The reference to L. J. Burpee's volume on the explorations of La Vérendrye and his sons is too favorable, as the volume is perhaps the least scholarly of the earlier publications of the society.

A sobering final reflection provoked by this book is that so often in the past the collection of documents and the making of transcripts have depended on the enthusiasm of private individuals or on the leverage afforded by a national anniversary. The preservation of historical sources and the provision for access to them

is now much more systematic. Yet it still remains true that the knowledge of where the documents that tell and the documents that are fresh are to be found depends upon individual effort, private information, and labors such as those of Mr. Beers.

ETHNOHISTORY

American Indian and White Relations to 1830: Needs & Opportunities for Study. An Essay by WILLIAM N. FENTON. With a Bibliography by L. H. BUTTERFIELD, WILCOMB E. WASHBURN, and WILLIAM N. FENTON. (Chapel Hill, The University of North Carolina Press, 1957. x, 138 p. \$3.00.)

Reviewed by John C. Ewers

IN THE PAST American Indian studies have been approached by students from the viewpoint of the historian or that of the ethnologist. The historian's appraisal of the red man's role has been handicapped by his limited knowledge of the nature of Indian cultures. The ethnologist, in his eagerness to study Indians at firsthand in the field, often has neglected the rich source materials to be found in historical documents.

This little volume pleads for a combined approach which will "illuminate not merely the Indian in terms of white society or the Indian in terms of his own society, but each in his own terms and in terms of the other." It includes an essay read by William N. Fenton at a conference on "Early American Indian and White Relations" held at Williamsburg, Virginia, in 1953, and a bibliography on the subject designed to aid students of history and ethnology. Both are intended to stimulate combined or "ethnohistorical" studies of the Indians east of the Mississippi River.

Dr. Fenton, an able ethnologist whose quarter century of study of the Iroquois has convinced him of the fruitfulness of the ethnohistorical approach, addresses his essay primarily to historians. He reviews the ethnologists' considerable accomplishments in analyzing the historic cultures of the eastern tribes, the historians' contributions to understanding the history of white relations with these Indians, and suggests further

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studies which involve problems that can best be solved by the combined approach of the ethnohistorian. Undoubtedly the solution of many of these problems must await the training of men and women who will be equally at home on Indian reservations and in historical libraries.

The lengthy bibliography of ninety-one pages affords a helpful introduction to the existing literature for the student new to the field of ethnohistory. Admittedly the list of published works is selective. To this reviewer, it appears weighted heavily in favor of the tribes living east of the Alleghenies, while the entries referring to those of the western Great Lakes area are so few as to leave the erroneous impression that the Indians of that region have been relatively little studied. The inclusion of a systematic list of repositories of manuscript materials on the Indians of eastern North America should aid students in selecting a problem for study and in locating pertinent source materials.

NONCONFORMISTS

The Lunatic Fringe. By GERALD W. JOHNSON. (Philadelphia, J. B. Lippincott Company, 1957. 248 p. \$3.95.)

Reviewed by Carl H. Chrislock

GERALD JOHNSON'S latest book is an eloquent and convincing defense of nonconformity. The author believes the American people have a magnificent capacity to respond when the challenges confronting them are immediate and sharply urgent. But in times of reasonable calm, they become almost pathologically terrified of those individuals in their midst who want to improve the existing order. Potentially this attitude has consequences which are dangerous: civil liberties are imperiled; and the risk of destroying a valuable resource is created, for, according to Mr. Johnson, it is often today's so-called "addlepat" visionary who lays up the ideological stores needed by the policy makers of tomorrow.

The careers of fourteen members of the "Lunatic Fringe" are sketched to support this thesis. Thomas Paine, Theodore Roosevelt, Henry George, John Peter Altgeld, Ignatius Donnelly, Carry Nation, and the eight others

who complete the cast, were feared and distrusted by many in their own generation. Yet all of them to some degree had a prophetic vision of the future.

Few would quarrel with this basic thesis, but some readers will have difficulty with the sweep and daring of certain of the author's accompanying judgments. For example, the significance which Mr. Johnson attributes to the famous meeting between Senator Henry Cabot Lodge and Theodore Roosevelt shortly before Roosevelt's death is cosmic: "In that hospital room defeat of the League of Nations was assured; and with the League reduced to impotence, the way was cleared for Mussolini and then for Hitler." The plight of the professional historian when confronted with such breath-taking interpretations is suggested by the author's description of the difficulty created for the nineteenth-century scientists by Ignatius Donnelly's geological popularizations: "It is the very A, B, C, of polemics that it is unwise to try to blast another man for lying when you, yourself, do not know the truth."

If this tendency to free-wheeling generalization is a serious fault, the book has many counterbalancing virtues. Certainly it has sufficient timeliness to deserve best-seller status. McCarthyism may be dead; the notion that nonconformity has creative potentialities is not, of course, a new one; but in this day of the "organization man" the prevailing pressures are on the side of standardized modes of thought and behavior. In addition, Mr. Johnson is the kind of writer who can make a familiar theme fresh and exciting. In this, as in his other works, a unique combination of humor, tolerance, compassion, and deep human understanding, all of which are communicated in charming prose, adds several dimensions to the message he seeks to convey.

THE *Gopher Reader*, a 308-page book of selected reprints from the *Gopher Historian* magazine, has just been published by the Centennial Committee of the Minnesota Library Association, in collaboration with the Statehood Centennial Commission and the Minnesota Historical Society. The volume is now available to the society's members and educational institutions at special reduced prices: \$2.00 (paper); \$3.00 (cloth). Orders should be sent to the Minnesota Historical Society, St. Paul 1.

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. . . on the HISTORICAL HORIZON

BOTH interested amateurs and experienced historians will find useful a recently published book by Jacques Barzun and Henry F. Graff entitled *The Modern Researcher* (Harcourt, Brace and Company, 1957. xiii, 386 p.). The authors provide readable information on many techniques used in the research, writing, and publication of factual studies. Arranged in three parts, the volume offers brief discussions of such varied topics as notetaking, evaluating sources, quoting and translating, preparing footnotes and bibliographies, organizing material, writing clear sentences, and revising for publication. Also included is a section on the special problems encountered by Americans who do research in Europe. A thorough index makes the book a handy reference tool for teachers and scholars.

"ONE OF THE remarkable gaps in knowledge about the American magazine is its history since 1900." Thus writes Theodore Peterson in *Magazines in the Twentieth Century*, a volume which attempts "to remedy the deficiency" (Urbana, University of Illinois Press, 1956. 457 p.). By drawing upon a variety of sources, the author of this interesting, documented study "seeks to trace the popular magazine from its origins in the late nineteenth century through 1955." Among the many publishing ventures discussed are *Captain Billy's Whiz Bang*, a pocket-sized humor magazine published at Minneapolis in the 1920s by Wilford H. Fawcett, and the *Reader's Digest*, founded in 1922 by DeWitt Wallace of St. Paul.

SCHOLARS will welcome the republication by the University of Toronto Press of the late Harold A. Innis' valuable study of *The Fur Trade in Canada* (1956. 463 p.). Although the title page informs readers that the volume is a "revised edition," no sweeping revision has been attempted. Indeed, the original text remains intact except for three minor changes. Rather, the editor, Mary Q. Innis, has incorporated into the footnotes scattered references to recent publications which Innis "made it a habit to write on the margin of his copy." Two pages of the author's comments on the text also appear as an added appendix, and a useful bibliography has been supplied.

F.S.C.

THE IDEA of using "The Forty-Ninth Degree of North Latitude as an International Boundary" originated "in the office of the Hudson's Bay Company during the afternoon of August

3, 1714," declares Max Savelle, writing in the September number of the *Canadian Historical Review*. The author focuses his discussion on the early stages in the "gestation of the idea" during the period from 1686 to 1720, examining in some detail the fruitless negotiations conducted by England and France between 1713 and 1720. He points out that the forty-ninth parallel was not accepted as a boundary for more than a hundred years after it was first suggested.

IN AN ARTICLE on "The British North American West and the Civil War," appearing in the July issue of *North Dakota History*, Robin W. Winks expresses the opinion that the Sioux Uprising of 1862 was "the most important determinant of American expansionism" in the region during the Civil War. He describes the situation in the Red River Valley with regard to the *métis* and calls attention to the role of James Wickes Taylor, "an exceptional American expansionist," who spearheaded the strong movement in Minnesota for the annexation by the United States of "what is today Saskatchewan, Manitoba, and Alberta." According to the author, the unsettled conditions in Minnesota during and after the Sioux War cut off Canadian communications with the Red River settlements and stirred "British interest in the fate of the Hudson's Bay Company's outposts." By the time the Civil War ended, the opportunity had passed for American expansion into the Canadian northwest.

AN ACCOUNT of the *Life and Services of Bishop Frederic Baraga*, written in 1868 by Father Edward Jucker, has been reprinted as an illustrated pamphlet by the Baraga Association of Marquette, Michigan (1957. 32 p.). Compiled a few days after Baraga's death by Jucker, his fellow missionary and friend, the sketch originally appeared in the *Marquette Weekly Plaindealer*. In it the author brought together information on Baraga's childhood, his studies, and his missionary work among the Indians living along the shores of Lakes Superior and Michigan. A useful map, locating Baraga's missions, is included.

"THE STORY of the Whaleback Vessels and of Their Inventor, Alexander McDougall," is related by Edward J. Dowling, S. J., in the Fall number of *Inland Seas*. After briefly reviewing McDougall's career, the author lists forty-three

whaleback barges and steamboats built between 1888 and 1896, giving their names, dimensions, date and place of launching, original owners, and the ultimate fate of each.

ALTHOUGH Hjalmer Holand is best known for his long and spirited defense of the authenticity of the Kensington rune stone, only a small section of his autobiography, *My First Eighty Years*, deals with this controversy (New York, Twayne Publishers, 1957. 256 p. \$4.00.). Instead, the author dwells upon his boyhood in Norway, his experiences as an itinerant book salesman in Minnesota and Wisconsin, and the pleasures and hardships of pioneer life in Door County, Wisconsin. His experiences at Battle Creek College in Michigan should prove of interest to students of frontier religion, particularly those interested in the Adventist movement. In speaking of an investigation of the rune stone, conducted by the museum committee of the Minnesota Historical Society in 1910, Mr. Holand fails to make clear that the group's original endorsement of the genuineness of the inscription was dependant upon the findings of the runic specialist, Gisle Bothne, who later reported that he did not believe it to be genuine. It is also difficult to reconcile the author's account with the minutes of the meeting of the society's executive council at which that body declined his offer to sell the stone. F.S.C.

THE RISE of early civilizations in the New World is briefly described by Elden Johnson and the late Louis H. Powell in a booklet on *Indians Before History in the Upper Mississippi Valley* (St. Paul Science Museum, *Guide Pamphlet*, no. 3. 1957. 10 p.) Graphic maps illustrate the major cultural movements in the prehistoric period, and numerous drawings and photographs depict artifacts used by these Indians. An aspect of prehistoric culture, *The Hopewell Burial Mounds* in Indian Mounds Park, St. Paul, is treated by Mr. Johnson in *Park Leaflet* no. 3, also issued by the Science Museum. The single sheet shows the locations of existing and former mounds in the park and at Dayton's Bluff, and the accompanying text brings together useful condensed information on their significance. The title of the leaflet is somewhat misleading, for the accompanying text points out that although "a strong element of Hopewell culture is seen in some of the mounds," the remainder "were built by different peoples over a time span of many hundreds of years." F.S.C.

THE PART played by Alpheus B. Stickney and the Chicago Great Western in the building of *The Manchester & Oneida Railway* is chronicled

by Frank B. Donovan, Jr., in an attractive little book published by the State Historical Society of Iowa (1957. 48 p. \$2.00.). According to the author, Stickney, as president of the larger road, served as the Iowa line's "god-father," and for "all intents and purposes, the M & O was regarded as a branch of the Chicago Great Western." Mr. Donovan depicts the ups and downs of the colorful community-owned line from its opening in 1901 to the discontinuance of service in 1951, calling attention to its freight and passenger connections with roads serving the Twin Cities. The material in the book first appeared as a long article in the September number of the *Palimpsest*.

A VALUABLE two-volume biography of a famous governor of Illinois by William T. Hutchinson has been published by the University of Chicago Press under the title *Lowden of Illinois: The Life of Governor Frank O. Lowden* (1957. 767 p.). His career as lawyer, businessman, and politician is described, and his marked influence on events in American history from 1890 to 1940 is appraised. The opening chapter entitled "A Boy in Two Backwoods" chronicles the future governor's birth at Sunrise City in Chicago County, Minnesota, and depicts his early boyhood in the St. Croix Valley. R.W.F.

THE MINNESOTA SCENE

SCATTERED references to performances given in Minnesota may be found in Quaintance Eaton's recently published volume, *Opera Caravan: Adventures of the Metropolitan on Tour, 1883-1956* (Farrar, Straus and Cudahy, 1957. 400 p.). Miss Eaton notes that the Metropolitan Opera Company's tour first visited the state in 1900 when it gave four performances in the Exposition Building in Minneapolis. Touring companies returned in 1905 and 1907, and three years later gave seven performances in St. Paul. But not until 1944 did the Minneapolis Civic and Commerce Association and the University of Minnesota work out the arrangements described by the author that made Northrop Memorial Auditorium a regular annual stop for the Metropolitan. A useful feature of the book is a two-hundred-page chronological listing of operas, casts, and dates of performances for each city in which the Metropolitan has appeared since 1883 when its tours were initiated. The volume is illustrated and indexed.

MINNESOTA was one of ten states in which "local and district assemblies of the Knights [of Labor] worked in harmony and co-operated with farm organizations" in the years from 1889

to 1891, according to Gerald N. Grob, who contributes an article on "The Knights of Labor, Politics, and Populism" to *Mid-America* for January. The writer reviews in some detail the history of an early effort "to forge an effective alliance" of farmers and workers—an attempt that ended in failure. In the October, 1957, issue of the same magazine, Charles N. Glaab discusses "The Failure of North Dakota Progressivism" in the era before 1915. Although of "non-agrarian character," this movement for governmental reform, according to Mr. Glaab, "did indirectly assist the rise of the Nonpartisan League." He points out that "the chief demand of the Progressives, the direct primary, proved to be the means by which Arthur C. Townley . . . was able to organize an independent farmers' political movement."

MINNESOTA is among the states that have sent a high proportion of foreign-born representatives to Washington, according to Murray G. Lawson, writing on "The Foreign-Born in Congress, 1789-1949" in the December number of the *American Political Science Review*. The author states that nineteen of Minnesota's Congressmen were born abroad. Tables accompanying his text show the country of origin, the number and percentage of foreign-born Congressmen, their geographical distribution by state, party affiliations by nationality, length of service, ages at time of immigration, and professions upon election for the nation as a whole.

A MINNESOTA bishop's efforts on behalf of the Sisseton and Wahpeton Sioux are described by Everett W. Sterling in "Bishop Henry B. Whipple: Indian Agent Extraordinary" in the September number of the *Historical Magazine* of the Protestant Episcopal Church. Because of complaints regarding the distribution of funds allocated to the Indians, Congress in 1868 directed that the appropriation for the Sisseton and Wahpeton be administered by Bishop Whipple. How he went about the execution of that task is the subject of Mr. Sterling's discussion.

REMINISCENCES of a long career as administrative officer of a famous Minnesota medical institution have been privately published by Harry J. Harwick, in collaboration with William Holmes, under the title *Forty-Four Years with the Mayo Clinic, 1908-1952* (Rochester, 1957, 68 p.). The author describes the coming of early settlers to the area, the advent of railroads, the clinic's early financial struggles, and the development of his own career, shedding light on the Mayo brothers' philosophy of medicine and

on the personalities of many other people with whom he has been associated. As one of the key men in the clinic's administration, his recollections will be welcomed by students of Minnesota's medical history.

AN INFORMATIVE *History of Ada, Minnesota, 1876-1952*, written and published by Lenora I. Johnson, contains a wealth of data on the Red River Valley community (Ada, 1957, 68 p.). The author describes the coming of early settlers to the area, the advent of railroads, pioneer businesses, and the development of village government, churches, newspapers, and fire and postal services. Mrs. Johnson's text contains many amusing and pointed anecdotes, and she bolsters her generalizations with valuable statistics gleaned from the files of local newspapers and from municipal records. The booklet is unusual in that its coverage of the twentieth century is as painstaking as that of the pioneer period.

INFORMATION on early Finnish settlers in Wadena, Otter Tail, Becker, and Hubbard counties may be found in a *History of the Sebeka Pioneers*, issued by the Sebeka chapter of the Minnesota Finnish-American Historical Society (Sebeka, 1957, 32 p.). In addition to sketches of pioneer Finnish families, the booklet contains short histories of the Sebeka Creamery and the Sebeka Co-operative Association and some general information on logging and railroad construction in the area.

COLOR PHOTOGRAPHS of the William G. Le Duc house at Hastings are featured in the roto section of the *Minneapolis Tribune* of September 15. Both interior and exterior views of "The House Le Duc Built" are included. A brief text accompanying the photos offers information on the designer and the past and present owners of the residence and suggests that it be preserved as a museum.

THANKS to the village council of Slayton the Murray County Historical Society has obtained a building for museum purposes. On September 16 Mr. John Silvernale, president of the local society, announced that the former village firehouse had been made available to the group. The work of putting the museum into shape has begun with the help of an appropriation of two thousand dollars granted to the society by the board of commissioners of Murray County.

A HISTORICAL "Review of Developments in the Sintering Process" between 1920 and 1956, by M. F. Morgan is one of the papers included

in the mimeographed proceedings of the *Eighteenth Annual Mining Symposium* held at the University of Minnesota on January 8 and 9, 1957 (Minneapolis, University of Minnesota School of Mines, 1957. 79 p.). Mr. Morgan analyzes the development of the taconite industry by decades, noting the number of plants in the nation and their total capacity, and chronicling improvements in machinery and processing over the years. In the same booklet, H. H. Wade discusses "Agglomeration Processes, Their Development, and Their Significance for Lake Superior District Iron Mining," recalling his early experimental work with Professor E. W. Davis of the university's Mines Experiment Station in the 1920s.

HANDSOME PAMPHLETS that may well serve as models for similar anniversary booklets have been published to mark the centennials of the founding of two Catholic parishes in Stearns County. They are *One Hundred Years in Christ, 1857-1957*, the story of the Immaculate Conception Parish at New Munich, by Paulin M. Blecker, O.S.B. (St. Cloud, 1957. 107 p.), and *A History of St. Joseph, 1856-1956* by Brice J. Howard, O.S.B. (St. Cloud, 1956. 89 p.). Both authors depict the development of these churches against the background of German settlement in the area, devoting major space to the first fifty years in the history of each parish. Illustrations and documentation are provided in each booklet as well as appendixes containing lists of pastors and information on parish organizations.

THE HUNDREDTH ANNIVERSARY of the founding of the Episcopal diocese of Minnesota was marked by a special program at the diocesan convention, held in Minneapolis on September 17 and 18, and by the appearance of a centennial edition of the *Minnesota Missionary* for September. In it may be found a number of articles dealing with such well-known figures in the history of the church as Ezekiel G. Gear, James Lloyd Breck, John Johnson, and Bishops Jackson Kemper and Henry B. Whipple. Three letters written by Kemper during his visit to Minnesota in 1851 have been edited by Gilbert H. Doane; the work of such "Pioneer Church Women in Minnesota Territory" as Mrs. E. Steele Peake and Sybil Carter is described by Helen L. Mac Donald; and the election of Henry B. Whipple as the first Episcopalian bishop of Minnesota is discussed by F. Sanford Cutler.

TO COMMEMORATE the fiftieth anniversary of iron ore beneficiation in Minnesota, a number of publications were issued in 1957. "Beneficia-

tion's Fiftieth Anniversary" is the subject of a brief article in the issue of *Skilling's Mining Review* of August 10. The account describes the first experimental concentrating plant erected by the Oliver Mining Company in 1907 and lists other "Early Concentrators" built in Minnesota and elsewhere before 1930. The Oliver company's initial efforts to concentrate low-grade ores at its Trout Lake plant near Coleraine receive more detailed treatment in a pamphlet published by the firm under the title, *The Iron Key* (Duluth, 1957. 16 p.). Considerable information on the Trout Lake plant as well as on later taconite developments sponsored by other companies at Silver Bay and Hoyt Lakes may be found in a special forty-eight page section of the *Duluth News-Tribune* of August 11, which is devoted to a general review of the "Iron Horizon." Technical information on ore beneficiation equipment and taxation and production statistics are presented in readable form.

A BOOKLET issued in connection with a celebration from June 27 to 30 marking the *One Hundredth Anniversary of the Northwest Grand Lodge*—the Minnesota division of the International Order of Good Templars—has been edited by Carl E. Carson and published by the organization (Minneapolis, 1957. 71 p.). It states that the first Good Templar lodge in Minnesota was established at Winona in 1856, and it chronicles the spread of this temperance group throughout the state in the nineteenth century. With the influx of Swedish and Norwegian settlers into the area, separate Scandinavian-speaking lodges came into existence and flourished until 1941. Biographies of leading members of the group and short histories of individual lodges are included.

THE FIRST SCHOOL in the township was started by Gideon Pond in 1843, according to a "History of Bloomington Schools," appearing in the *Bloomington Sun* of October 24. The names, dates of founding, and the locations of later schools in the area are given, and the subsequent emergence of a modern school system is described.

NEWS OF THE SOCIETY

THE 1958 annual meeting of the society will be held on May 1 in the Coffman Memorial Union on the University of Minnesota campus in Minneapolis. Principal speaker at a dinner meeting scheduled to begin at 6 p.m. will be Dr. George A. Selke, Minnesota commissioner of conserva-

tion. The dinner menu will feature such pioneer foods as buffalo, turkey, and wild rice. An institute for members of county historical societies will again be a feature of the annual meeting program. The discussion this year will center around the problems encountered by local historical organizations.

ON JANUARY 23 the United States Court for the Eighth Circuit at St. Louis denied the United States government's claim to Captain William Clark's field notes of 1803-06. Unless the government appeals to the United States Supreme Court, the case will be returned to federal district court in St. Paul, where a suit to quiet title to the papers was initiated against the society by the heirs of General John Henry Hammond. The Clark Papers were found among the latter's effects in 1953. The disposition of the papers remains to be decided.

WITH funds made available by the Minnesota Statehood Centennial Commission, the society is planning twelve tours in 1958 to areas of historical interest in the state. The first, scheduled for May 24 and 25, will visit historic sites associated with the Sioux Uprising in the Minnesota Valley. On June 21 and 22 tours originating in the Twin Cities and in Duluth will have as their destination the Mesabi Iron Range. Visits to Pipestone National Monument and the Northwest Angle are tentatively scheduled for the month of July, and in August caravans will travel to the North Shore of Lake Superior and the Hiawatha and Root River valleys. The St. Croix Valley will be the objective of a final tour scheduled for September 13. More detailed information will be sent to members of the society as soon as the tour schedules are completed. Reservations will be necessary in all cases.

AS PART of the archaeological project at Fort Snelling, sponsored by the Minnesota Statehood Centennial Commission and the society, new exhibits in the Round Tower will be opened to the public on May 3. The displays, designed to tell the story of old Fort Snelling and the men who built it, will utilize numerous objects uncovered in recent excavations. Visitors on opening day are also cordially invited to view the archaeological work which is in progress.

DURING the 1958 convention of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association, which will meet from April 24 to 26 at the Hotel Nicollet in Minneapolis, the society will sponsor a tour to spots of historical interest in the Twin Cities. Mr. Fridley, the society's director, will serve as chairman of a session on April 25 to be devoted

to the writing of state history. Participating in the discussion will be F. Clever Bald of the University of Michigan, Herbert Schell of the University of South Dakota, James C. Olson of the University of Nebraska, and K. Ross Toole, director of the Montana Historical Society.

MORE THAN a thousand persons attended a centennial open house in the Historical Building on the afternoon of January 5. The program, sponsored by the society's Women's Organization, featured an exhibit and an illustrated talk on the recent excavations at Fort Snelling, the presentation of a collection of license plates by Secretary of State Joseph Donovan and Mrs. Mike Holm, and selections by the Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Company's chorus.

A SPECIAL committee for the study of the role of the Negro in Minnesota history has been established by the society. The group, with a membership of about forty persons, is headed by Cecil Newman, editor of the *Minneapolis Spokesman* and the *St. Paul Recorder*. Its purpose will be to collect historical materials on the Negro in Minnesota and to conduct a program of research, discussion, and writing on the subject.

A MANUSCRIPT containing data on land held by early settlers in western Hennepin County has been presented to the society by Mrs. Peter M. Schmitz of Wayzata. Prepared by Mrs. Schmitz with the assistance of Roger Avery Stubbs, the sixty-seven-page compilation lists alphabetically the settler's name, the township and section in which he settled, the date of the land purchase, and the compilers' source of information. The data was drawn from the first Hennepin County book of abstracts in the register of deeds office, and from the files of the West Hennepin County Pioneer Association. Townships covered include Corcoran, Excelsior, Greenwood, Independence, Maple Grove, Medina, Minnetonka, Minnetrista, Plymouth, and Orono. Accompanying the manuscript are photostatic copies of plats for each township showing the names of persons who purchased land in the 1850s, the number of the section, and the acreage.

THE PAPERS of Simon Michelet, onetime secretary to Senator Knute Nelson, have been presented to the society by Karl Michelet of Washington, D.C. The collection, numbering about twenty-five hundred items, covers the period from 1909 to 1940 and contains political correspondence and a manuscript biography of Nelson written by Ralph Thornton.



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