

Seedtime of Reform: American Social Service and Social Action, 1918-1933. By CLARKE A. CHAMBERS. (Minneapolis, University of Minnesota Press, 1963. xvi, 326 p. \$6.50.)

Right Reverend New Dealer: John A. Ryan. By FRANCIS L. BRODERICK. (New York, The Macmillan Company, 1963. ix, 290 p. Frontispiece. \$5.95.)

Reviewed by Rhoda R. Gilman

CLARKE A. CHAMBERS tells the story of those who kept alight the guttering flame of social reform through the "tepid, torpid years" of the 1920s. Fighting a losing battle on such issues as child labor, wages and working conditions of women, old age security, and unemployment, a small but devoted band of reformers and social workers bridged the gap between the great reform surge of the century's early years and the depression of the 1930s. Although unspectacular, their efforts were largely responsible for the speed and effectiveness with which the Roosevelt administration changed America, for "Out of frustration was born social imagination," and "By the end of the decade, new devices for social reconstruction, devices that anticipated much of the central program of the New Deal, had been elaborated."

Mr. Chambers devotes chapters to each of the major "causes" of the period, reviewing their all-too-similar records of conferences, committees, high hopes, and discouraging failure. He also scrutinizes the changes which took place in the ranks of reform: the widening gap between reformers and welfare workers, the professionalization of the latter field, and the consequent substitution of "social adjustment" for "social justice" as the goal of action. Only in the settlement houses does he find that the prewar amalgam of personal contact and service with a long-range struggle for community betterment was maintained.

This is a story not of a few outstanding personalities, but of many people who were relatively little known outside their own localities and professions. Mr. Chambers reels off a multitude of their names, but all too often he identifies them sketchily, if at all. Among those who will probably be familiar to Minnesotans are Francis A. Duxbury of Caledonia, first chairman of the Minnesota Industrial Commission; Frank J. Bruno, who served for ten years with the Associated Charities of Minneapolis; state senator George Nordlin of St. Paul, who figured in the struggle for old age pensions and social security; and Robbins Gilman, head resident of the Northeast Neighborhood House in Minneapolis from 1914 to 1948. The papers of the latter and his wife, Catheryne Cooke Gilman, which are owned by the Minnesota Historical Society, are among the major sources used by Mr. Chambers in his chapters on settlement work.

One name which appears frequently in this book is that of the Reverend John A. Ryan, who directed the social action department of the National Catholic Welfare Conference throughout of the period covered by Mr. Chambers and was "one of the very first propagandists for the living wage principle." The full-length story of this Minnesota-reared priest and social reformer is told by Francis L. Broderick in a biography which draws its provocative title from an epithet coined by the Reverend Charles E. Coughlin in 1936.

Ryan's seventy-seven-year career began on a farm in Dakota County and was shaped at the outset by poverty, Populism, and the oratory of Ignatius Donnelly. The distinctive contribution of that career, according to Mr. Broderick, "came from the skill with which he blended traditional Catholic principles and the American progressive tradition."

The author follows Ryan through his years as a student and teacher at St. Paul Seminary, summarizing the development of his thought on industrial society and Catholic social doc-

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trine as revealed in two scholarly works published in 1906 and 1916. These won Ryan a reputation as the leading American spokesman for Catholic social action and resulted in an invitation to join the faculty of the Catholic University of America in Washington.

During his later years, which occupy the major part of the book, he was identified with a broad spectrum of progressive causes, although he came into conflict with the mainstream of American liberalism on such issues as church-state relations and birth control. He was "the only Catholic priest ever to serve" on the national board of the American Civil Liberties Union; he acted as one of a three-member industrial appeals board set up under the national recovery act; he occupied a place on the general advisory council for the drafting of social security legislation; and he voiced vigorous opposition to those who offered "quack remedies for the depression malady." It was this stand which brought him into public conflict with Father Coughlin. Until his death in St. Paul in 1946, Ryan remained a stout defender of the measures instituted by the Roosevelt administration and strove untiringly "to show Catholic America that these progressive reforms were essential for achieving the social justice to which their religion beckoned them."

Although Mr. Broderick is a frank admirer of Ryan, his work is scholarly in its approach and not altogether uncritical. In addition to the prelate's numerous published writings, he has used Ryan's personal papers, which are owned by the Catholic University, and has drawn on interviews with friends and members of the family in St. Paul.

Both authors regard the 1920s as a period of change, realignment, and germination — but not of retreat. Although it witnessed no major achievement on any front, it was a decade of intense activity among liberal groups. Mr. Chambers sees the busy reformers with their endless committee meetings and resolutions as playing out "a ritualistic role of protest," while Mr. Broderick describes the scene as "An awkward charade, mouthing hopes unheard by the rest of America." Yet both agree that from this process came the future.

In facing a problem common to historians of the recent past, both authors have handled in similar fashion unwieldy masses of source ma-

terial. They identify in footnotes only quotations and specific points of interpretation, while covering general sources in a bibliographic essay at the end of the book.

PROGRESS REPORT

Prologue. By MILDRED THOMSON. (Minneapolis, Gilbert Publishing Company, 1963. 247 p. \$3.50.)

Reviewed by Ethel McClure

IN WRITING this memoir of thirty-five years' work with the Minnesota program for the feeble-minded, Mildred Thomson's aim was "to make evident the place of the mentally retarded in the total social program and to show it within the framework of the times." She relates developments in her chosen field to significant events and periods in the state's history, and by furnishing dates, places, persons, background events, and sources of information, has produced a valuable reference for students in other areas.

When Miss Thomson came to Minnesota in 1924 as supervisor of the department for the feeble-minded in the children's bureau, she found a state ahead of most in its provision for the mentally retarded. There was the famed Minnesota children's code, a body of laws for the protection of "defective, illegitimate, dependent, neglected and delinquent children," and to administer the act, an outstanding children's bureau in a highly respected state board of control. Seventy-two of the state's eighty-seven counties had volunteer child welfare boards to aid in the work. Also under the board of control were the state school for the feeble-minded at Faribault and a bureau of research, which conducted mental tests. Forty-four cities and towns had special classes for subnormal children in their public schools.

In the years from 1924 until 1959, when Miss Thomson retired, she initiated or participated in most of the developments affecting the retarded. The list is impressive, including community programs, changes in laws and procedures, educational courses, participation in state and national conferences, and — a matter

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of special satisfaction—the formation of parents' groups, leading to the eventual organization of the Minnesota Association for Retarded Children. These years also witnessed "growth in knowledge and human understanding."

The way was not always easy. The public generally was indifferent to the problem, and even Miss Thomson's fellow workers in the children's bureau sometimes wondered at her great interest in the feeble-minded for whom, seemingly, so little could be done. The depression of the 1930s meant retrenchment, and World War II brought special restrictions. With the advent of federal programs affecting retarded children emphases were often changed and attention was shifted from old projects to new. As one political party succeeded another and reorganization of government was undertaken, the program for the mentally retarded was "tossed from one administrative agency to another"—sometimes coupled with child welfare, sometimes with mental health.

Adjustments were necessary and there inevitably arose misunderstandings and differences of opinion, which Miss Thomson describes with complete candor. Her narrative is personal, and for many readers the most lasting impression it creates may be a glimpse into the government world of interlocking departments and agencies, bounded by laws and budgets—where, nevertheless, interpretation and salesmanship are of vital importance. The frustrations, challenges, and rewards coming to a person who directs a program in such a setting are pictured frankly and vividly. Although the book covers a long span—for Miss Thomson also dips into the past—the work has continuity and conveys such a sense of marching toward a goal that it is hard to put down.

NEBRASKA LIBERAL

George W. Norris: The Making of a Progressive, 1861–1912. By RICHARD LOWITT. (Syracuse, New York, Syracuse University Press, 1963. xiv, 341 p. Illustrations. \$7.95.)

Reviewed by Wilbur E. Elston

A CANDIDATE less likely to become a political progressive could scarcely have been imagined than George W. Norris in his early years.

As a young Nebraska lawyer, he entered the

mortgage loan business, collected delinquent accounts, and bought and sold real estate. As a rising young politician, he became a railroad attorney and obtained railroad passes that provided free transportation to Republican conventions for himself and his political friends. As county attorney and district judge, he supported Republican candidates all down the line.

Yet this was the same man who during almost forty years in Congress was to become a nationally known liberal and progressive. He was the man who broke the czarlike hold of Speaker Joseph G. Cannon on the House of Representatives; he was also the man who fathered the Tennessee Valley Authority and was chiefly responsible for the Twentieth Amendment abolishing lame duck sessions of Congress.

George Norris was a product of his times and his environment. As a judge in the depression era of the 1890s, he proved realistic and pragmatic in dispensing justice. He postponed sheriffs' sales and mortgage foreclosures, granting debtors extensions to allow them to meet their obligations if they showed any prospect of being able to do so. He understood the Populist movement even though he opposed its candidates—and they him. He said Populism reflected "human misery and poverty." Norris had known both.

Richard Lowitt sees Norris as an uncommon common man, a man who chose the simple and unpretentious, a man who was more at home in the parlor than in the drawing room. He was a nineteenth-century liberal in the Jeffersonian tradition. In the twentieth century it was appropriate for him to support both Theodore Roosevelt and Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Mr. Lowitt's book, the first half of a two-volume biography, follows Norris through his early career to his elevation to the United States Senate in 1912. The author, an associate professor of history in Connecticut College, has done a thorough research job, and his fifty-six pages of notes are valuable for both general readers and scholars. The only disappointment is a writing style that is often wooden and wordy and that detracts from the general excellence of the biography.

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GOLD AND SILVER

The Whirligig of Politics: The Democracy of Cleveland and Bryan. By J. ROGERS HOLLINGSWORTH. (Chicago, The University of Chicago Press, 1963. xii, 263 p. \$5.00.)

Reviewed by Carl H. Chrislock

THIS BOOK tells the story of the national Democratic party from 1892 to 1904. The first three chapters describe the travail of Grover Cleveland's second term. Within a year after its installation, his administration found its impressive 1892 electoral base badly eroded. The discredit bred by economic depression and a deep intraparty public policy schism accounted for many, but not all, of Cleveland's difficulties. As Mr. Hollingsworth insists, presidential leadership also faltered. Cleveland's dogged devotion to principle (the gold standard, *laissez faire*, and limited government) precluded even the token concessions which might have minimized internal Democratic dissensions.

The year 1896 witnessed a rare spectacle in American politics: the loss of party control by an incumbent president. Contrary to popular legend, Bryan's "Cross of Gold" speech was only an incident in this remarkable overturn. Thanks to months of intensive preparation, the competently led prosilver forces controlled the national convention from beginning to end. In the absence of other available candidates, they nominated Bryan.

Not all students of the period will agree completely with Mr. Hollingsworth's treatment of the 1896 campaign. His analysis of Democratic preconvention politics is generally unexceptionable, but recent research throws serious doubt on his assertions that "the solid core of Populism believed that free silver was the 'cowbird of the reform movement,'" and that in the mid-nineties Populist politicians became "more concerned with success than principles." He also exaggerates Bryan's nonidentification with Populism; Tom Watson, whose Populist radicalism can scarcely be questioned, testified that when he and Bryan served in Congress, they voted together on every measure. Similarly, Mr. Hollingsworth assigns insufficient importance to the reform planks in the Democratic platform on issues other than money. On the other hand, he does characterize Bryan's first campaign as not only "the last great pro-

test of the agrarian order against urban domination," but also as "the first attempt of a new age to meet its responsibilities."

After McKinley took office, returning prosperity, Cuba, and the Spanish-American War created a new political milieu inhospitable to free silver. Nonetheless Gold and Silver Democrats continued their quarrel, neglecting opportunities to re-establish party harmony on such issues as anti-imperialism. To be sure, Bryan campaigned against imperialism in 1900, but he also insisted on keeping the money question alive, much to the chagrin of anti-imperialists who were also gold men. Following Bryan's second defeat his opponents moved to seize control of the party in the name of "reorganization." In 1904 the presidential nomination went to conservative Judge Alton B. Parker, who insisted on identifying himself as a Gold Democrat. His catastrophic defeat convinced even the most obtuse Democrats that their party had to come to terms with the present.

Thereafter, according to Mr. Hollingsworth, members of the Cleveland and Bryan camps "tacitly" buried the old controversies and united in support of progressivism. In turn, unity revitalized the party. In 1906 Democrats began to win elections, and in 1908 many old Clevelandites cheerfully supported Bryan in his third bid for the presidency.

As 1904 is the author's terminal point, his treatment of Democratic history following that year is confined to a few large generalizations in the final chapter. One of these raises a question worthy of fuller examination than was possible in this book: by "interring their lost causes" in favor of identification with progressivism, were the Bryan supporters obliged to sacrifice as much as the Cleveland element? In other words, was not "Bryanism" initially closer to progressivism than "Clevelandism?" True, Cleveland Democracy had a reform emphasis (antibossism and "clean" government) relevant to the Progressive era, but early twentieth-century urban reformers advocated expanding the functions and responsibilities of government beyond that which the Cleveland

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tradition allowed. For this reason it is a little jolting to read on the final page of the book that "Woodrow Wilson . . . successfully bridged the gap between urban and rural reformers, who personified the ideas and aspirations of both Cleveland and Bryan Democrats."

This reviewer hopes Mr. Hollingsworth will follow up this book with a study of Democratic party history from 1904 to, say, 1916. No doubt such a work would have as a main concern the respective contributions of the Cleveland and Bryan traditions to Wilson's New Freedom.

BURLINGTON PIONEERING

Diesels West! By DAVID P. MORGAN. (Milwaukee, Kalmbach Publishing Company, 1963. 164 p. Illustrations. \$9.75.)

Reviewed by Frank P. Donovan

A BOOK on the conversion to diesel of the Burlington Railroad is especially fitting because that line pioneered in putting the internal combustion engine on rails. It also made the name "Zephyr" synonymous with streamliners.

Diesels West! is essentially a volume on Burlington motive power by an author who is an acknowledged authority on locomotives. After a labored start, covering nearly a century of steam engine development in one chapter, Mr. Morgan's story picks up speed and interest with his account of rail motor cars, stainless steel streamliners, and heavy-duty diesel units. The Burlington gained valuable experience with internal combustion traction by operating fifty-seven gas-electric motor cars, or "doodlebugs" as they were nicknamed. It was in the early 1930s that the late Ralph Budd, president of the railroad, decided to make the switch to diesels. With rare foresight, he teamed up with Edward G. Budd, of Philadelphia's Budd Manufacturing Company, and Charles F. Kettering, of General Motors, to launch America's first diesel-powered streamlined train. It was named the "Zephyr"—the Greek personification of the west wind.

The run of the "Zephyr" from Denver to Chicago, to signal the reopening of the Century of Progress Exposition in the latter city, was one of the most dramatic events in railroad

history. President Budd announced that the silvery streamliner would leave Denver at 4:00 A.M. on May 26, 1934, and be at the fair that evening. A cracked armature bearing, however, delayed its departure; later, a short circuit almost forced it to halt; and other mishaps made the outlook bleak. But it came through without a stop. The time of the 1015.4-mile race was 785 minutes, which set a world's record for a nonstop run. Some five hundred thousand people lined the route and cheered the epic-making train.

Other "Zephyrs" soon followed. On April 21, 1935, the "Twin Zephyrs" made their initial runs between Chicago and Minneapolis. They were the first streamliners in regular service to the Twin Cities. The next year two new seven-car "Twin Zephyrs" replaced the earlier streamliners on the same run. Then in December, 1947, the "Twin Zephyrs" had the distinction of being the first "Vista Dome" trains in the nation.

What the diesel streamliners did for passengers, diesel locomotives subsequently did for freight. First the switcher, then the road engine, and afterward the all-purpose diesel soon unseated and finally banished steam motive power from the Burlington's rails. Along with the complete conversion to diesel, Mr. Morgan mentions other modern improvements adopted by the Burlington, including push-button yards, centralized traffic control, and the road's sixteen-million-dollar Kansas City Short Cut.

Diesels West! is an accurate progress report of one railroad, semipopular in style but slanted more for one interested in trains than for the layman. An index would have helped to make the book's facts more readily available; and in many cases picture captions are lacking, while others are unimaginative and too brief.

BUSINESS VIEWPOINT

Transcontinental Railway Strategy, 1869–1893: A Study of Businessmen. By JULIUS GRODINSKY. (Philadelphia, University of Pennsylvania Press, 1962. xxi, 443 p. Maps, tables. \$7.50.)

Reviewed by John L. Harnsberger

THE DEVELOPMENT of the midwestern and western railway systems is the interesting but

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complex story presented in this volume by the late Julius Grodinsky. It is primarily a business and financial history, and its philosophy may be stated simply in the words of the author: "Some businessmen gain, some lose—but the public benefits. It got the railroads."

Despite the dreams of such men as Asa Whitney, Josiah Perham, Isaac I. Stevens, Thomas H. Benton, and Jay Cooke—despite the abundance of charters, enthusiasm, local "boomers," foreign investors, and government subsidies—the history of western railroads through the mid-1870s is largely one of losses sustained by original bondholders and promoters alike. Nevertheless lines were built extending westward from St. Paul, Chicago, Omaha, Kansas City, St. Louis, and New Orleans, many of them penetrating beyond the line of existing settlement and opening new lands to development. "In Minnesota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Illinois, Kansas, California, and Dakota," notes Mr. Grodinsky, "the early railroads were built by unnamed and unsung risk takers" who "wasted both their funds and many years of their time and energy in losing ventures."

But the graded roadbeds and miles of track remained. Building upon these foundations—and upon the losses of their predecessors—men like James J. Hill, Collis P. Huntington, Richard R. Cable, Alexander Mitchell, John M. Forbes, Henry Villard, and Jay Gould initiated in the 1880s "the greatest and most sustained railroad-building program in the country's history." By 1893 the nation's major railway networks were virtually complete.

This phenomenal expansion was accompanied by competition which at times threatened to be ruinous, and one of the author's outstanding contributions is his clear discussion of the various early efforts of the carrier managers to regulate and lessen competition. This was attempted in different periods by rate fixing, defining of service areas, and establishment of freight allotments through pooling agreements and railroad associations, none of which were successful over the long run. Not until the period of corporate consolidation in the 1890s was real progress made in stabilizing rates.

In describing the practice of pooling, Mr. Grodinsky brings order to a chaotic subject.

He also applies his talent for clear, nontechnical language in dealing with the financing of expansion; with the logic of the "long haul-short haul" differential as a practical solution to interstate competition; with the effect of the interstate commerce act of 1887 in aiding the Canadian Pacific Railway in its competition with American lines; and in discussion of the success of a well-managed and financially stable road like the Great Northern as compared to the troubled Northern Pacific.

The volume would probably have caused more unfavorable comment had it been published a few years earlier. Although Mr. Grodinsky's treatment of his subject is objective and unemotional, some readers will disagree with his concept of the place of railroads in our national development. Ignoring the traditional monopolistic monster, he presents rail problems as those of a business not significantly different from other more competitive sectors of the national economy.

DAIRYLAND DEVELOPMENT

The Rise of the Dairy Industry in Wisconsin: A Study in Agricultural Change, 1820–1920. By ERIC E. LAMPARD. (Madison, The State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1963. xii, 466 p. Map. \$6.00.)

Reviewed by Paul W. Gates

TO THE LIST of distinguished writers who have made notable contributions to the history of agriculture in Wisconsin—among them Benjamin H. Hibbard, Joseph Schafer, Frederick Merk, Merle E. Curti, and Vernon Carstensen—must now be added Eric E. Lampard, whose *The Rise of the Dairy Industry in Wisconsin* deservedly won the Everest prize. The book is a model of scholarly research, organization, analysis, and interpretation. To provide a proper setting for the beginnings of the dairy industry, the author describes the rise and decline of the wheat era in Wisconsin and even here corrects interpretations hitherto generally accepted. He shows that when wheat yields decreased, farmers turned to sheep, then to cattle which—unlike wheat—took little from the land.

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Drawing upon the best contemporary accounts of dairy farming and using a great array of published sources and some manuscripts, Mr. Lampard gives much attention to the manufacture of cheese and butter in the days before there was a large demand for fluid milk; he traces the ups and downs of these commodities in production and marketing, never forgetting the farmer, though at the same time giving adequate attention to the problems of the processors. He describes the battle of the breeds without getting bogged down in the interminable arguments and bickering which accompanied it. Technological improvements in testing milk, in separating cream from skim milk, and in refining the processes of cheese and buttermaking are discussed in intimate detail.

The author is not squeamish in dealing with the farmers' fight against the application of public controls for the protection of consumers, who had long been aroused by health experts to the dangers of contaminated milk. The dairy industry resisted and nullified all early measures to eliminate by legislation the hazards of drinking adulterated or watered milk from diseased, tubercular, or otherwise unclean herds. It displayed the same antagonism toward efforts to outlaw the misbranding of cheese, its adulteration with filler material, and its manufacture from skim milk. While conducting such defensive activities, the industry was demanding the imposition of health and sanitary regulations and discriminatory taxation upon margarine, as well as requesting legislation to prevent the misbranding of that product.

In a concluding chapter, the emphasis upon depressions and agricultural crises, which have been the theme of many economic historians, is shown to be inapplicable to Wisconsin. Farmers in that state learned to adapt their operations to economic conditions and shifted their major emphasis from wheat to sheep, to cattle, to cheese, to butter, to fluid milk. They accepted innovations—although sometimes slowly—and drew heavily upon the best information that research was providing at the University of Wisconsin.

Mr. Lampard has placed every agricultural and economic historian under a major obligation to him for this fine study. I could wish that the State Historical Society had been willing to include some illustrations which might have aided readers in following the technical dis-

cussions and that it had placed the footnotes, which are replete with amplifying and useful material, at the bottom of the pages.

FIXING THE BOUNDARY

West on the 49th Parallel: Red River to the Rockies, 1872-1876. By JOHN E. PARSONS. (New York, William Morrow and Company, 1963. xiv, 208 p. Maps, illustrations. \$6.00.)

Reviewed by Robin W. Winks

IN THE LATE summer of 1872 two boundary commissions, one British and the other American, began the arduous, frequently tedious, and sometimes dangerous task of establishing the international line between the United States and Canada from the Lake of the Woods west to the summit of the "Stony Mountains." The purpose of this survey was to fix on the ground the actual forty-ninth parallel, the artificial longitudinal line that had been recognized as the boundary since 1818. A secondary purpose was to determine exactly where the "north-western point" in the Lake of the Woods was and to mark it. The field work was completed in 1875.

The two survey parties worked jointly under their respective commissioners, Captain Donald R. Cameron for Britain and Archibald Campbell for the United States. They accomplished their joint purpose, for they left behind them numerous excellent maps, hundreds of cairns, boundary monuments, and mounds, and untold place names. Many acts of quiet heroism were needed to carry out the day-to-day routine. The survey parties moved through snow and mud, plagued by prairie fires, by scrounging and potentially hostile Indians, and by a lack of fodder for their teams. No single event dramatically drew attention to their work, and the story of it—except for a few scattered articles—has virtually been neglected.

That the story is worth telling is ably demonstrated by John E. Parsons in this excellent and brief account, succinctly narrated with a nice eye for illuminating detail and incident.

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The author writes a clear, unadorned, pleasing prose that moves with confidence across the landscape and through the years. His research has been extensive and imaginative. Most important, perhaps, is the fact that Mr. Parsons is at home with the nuances of his subject: he understands firearms, cartography, and survey instruments, and he knows the places of which he writes.

The publisher has provided us with a book of high quality. The maps are excellent, the photographs well chosen and clearly reproduced, the end papers not only decorative but useful, the index full, and the dust jacket well designed. The volume is a bargain at its price.

There are many major gaps in our recording of Anglo-Canadian-American relations. The history of the final demarcation of the international boundary is not, in fact, a major aspect of those relations. But Mr. Parsons has demonstrated that the subject has more intrinsic interest and is of greater significance than this reviewer had imagined. Perhaps now Mr. Parsons can give us an up-to-date, skillfully written substitute for John T. Faris' *The Romance of the Boundaries* (1926). There is need for a larger study that tells, in the same rich detail, of the lesser surveys of 1857–1861, and of the Alaska survey.

MILITARY LANDMARKS

Soldier and Brave: Indian and Military Affairs in the Trans-Mississippi West, Including a Guide to Historic Sites and Landmarks. Volume XII: The National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings. By the NATIONAL PARK SERVICE. (New York, Harper & Row, 1963. xviii, 279 p. Illustrations, maps. \$6.50.)

Reviewed by June Drenning Holmquist

THIS BOOK will be welcomed by travelers who like to visit historic sites, by scholars seeking a compact review of military and Indian history west of the Mississippi from 1820 to 1890, and by all who wish to know what sites associated with that history have been preserved and located. The wide-ranging volume

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is the first of a projected series to appear dealing with broad themes in American history which are commemorated in historic sites and buildings. It is based on the work of the National Park Service and the National Survey of Historic Sites and Buildings authorized by Congress in 1935. In a brief foreword, Conrad L. Wirth, then director of the park service, expresses the hope "that this volume may focus attention on, and stimulate further activities in, the safeguarding and interpretation of an important segment of our heritage."

Eighty-nine pages of background on Indian policies and wars in the trans-Mississippi West open the book. All but one of the more than two hundred sites that follow lie in the diverse area between the Mississippi River and the Pacific Ocean. They are divided into four groupings: eight units within the National Park system, twenty-one deemed to have "exceptional value" and to be eligible for designation as Registered National Historic Landmarks, 117 meriting attention but not nationally significant by the criteria set forth, and ninety-one marginal sites which are merely listed.

Only one Minnesota site in the subject area covered by the volume is considered to be of exceptional value. It is Fort Snelling, cradle of settlement and for many years the nation's northwesternmost military post, which was recently designated a state park. Four other Minnesota sites fall in the category meriting attention—Birch Coulee, Fort Ridgely, New Ulm, and Wood Lake. All are associated with the Sioux Uprising of 1862 as are a number of spots in nearby North and South Dakota, such as Killdeer Mountain and Whitestone Hill, which also appear.

The Minnesota material is marred by numerous small errors unworthy of such a book. The battle of Birch Coulee, for example, is said to have lasted thirty-one days rather than thirty-one hours, and some confusion exists about the roles of Charles E. Flandrau and Inpaduta in the Sioux Uprising.

The Minnesota sites selected are typical, for frontier forts and battlefields account for a large percentage of the entries. Readers will find the excellent maps useful in locating various defense perimeters in the white man's push westward. Also of interest are the many illustrations and a perceptive introduction by Ray Allen Billington. The book is indexed, and

the criteria used in selecting the sites are spelled out in an appendix.

CHANGING CULTURE

The Round Lake Ojibwa. By EDWARD S. ROGERS. (Toronto, Ontario Department of Lands and Forests, 1962. \$4.00.)

Reviewed by Sister Bernard Coleman

THIS BOOK is the result of a year's field work sponsored by the Royal Ontario Museum and the University of Toronto. In it the author gives a detailed description of the Ojibwa of Weagamow Lake, or "round lake," Ontario, as they are today. Mr. Rogers brings out the changes that have taken place in the lives of these Indians during the past sixty years due to contact with Euro-Canadian traders, government officials, and missionaries. The most evident modifications are in the economic system, and these along with changes in the religious system, affect the social organization.

A simple subsistence economy has been replaced by one based largely on exchange. The Ojibwa still trap and fish, but the resulting products are sold, and the returns, together with wages received for labor and government subsidies, are employed to purchase goods. Each year the Ojibwa manufacture fewer articles and buy more things produced by outsiders. Today the household is the most important unit of consumption. Goods are considered private property, and trapping territories belong to the men who hunt in those areas.

Mr. Rogers attacks the problem of social change by analyzing alterations in roles. The disappearance of the role of leader in the band and the appointment of a "chief" by the government resulted in the office becoming political, without religious, economic, or kinship aspects. The position of shaman disappeared, and Christian rituals replaced native forms.

Kinship ties still link, although weakly, a number of households, and help to give solidarity to the group. A common way of life, a common language, and a feeling of opposition to other communities and to Euro-Canadians, help to unite the Ojibwa, but there is no one

authority which controls the actions of the households. Mr. Rogers believes the Evangelical church with its native preachers is the most effective religious structure. But the natives still fear witchcraft, and have no way of counteracting sorcery. Thus religion is separated from the realities of life and becomes the cause of conflict in individuals and between members of the same household.

The book contains many excellent tables, maps, and plates, and a complete glossary of former kinship terms and obligations, but no bibliography.

SCHOLAR'S PROBLEM

THIRTEEN well-known historians have pooled their talents to discuss the use of *Generalization in the Writing of History* in a slender exploratory study edited by Louis Gottschalk (University of Chicago Press, 1963. 255 p. \$5.00.). The work, which will be of interest to the serious scholar, presents the report of the committee on historical analysis of the Social Science Research Council. The book is divided into three parts. The first opens with "Reflections upon the Problem of Generalization" by Chester G. Starr and contains six additional essays by M. I. Finley, Arthur F. Wright, Derk Bodde, Robert R. Palmer, Walter P. Metzger, and Thomas C. Cochran dealing with the use of generalization in ancient and Chinese history, on the subjects of revolution, national character, and social role. Part 2 offers pieces by Mr. Gottschalk, Roy F. Nichols, William O. Aydelotte, and David M. Potter analyzing such problems as comparison, interpretation, and theories and trends in historical writing. Part 3 presents a bibliography.

NORTH COUNTRY RAMBLES

ARMCHAIR VOYAGEURS will welcome the new book by Sigurd F. Olson, *Runes of the North* (New York, 1963. 254 p.). Drawing on his wide experience of the North, the author has woven together a series of essays ranging from an epicurean discussion of wild rice and its origins to an Indian myth of "the dream net." He roams geographically from the Yukon and Glacier Bay southeast to the Quetico-Superior area. Most familiar to Minnesotans will be the section of the book called "Le Beau Pays" which tells of the timberlands, rivers, and lakes of the Minnesota-Ontario border country.

SISTER BERNARD, who teaches sociology and anthropology in the College of St. Scholastica at Duluth, is the coauthor of a recent book on Ojibwa Myths and Legends.

. . . on the *HISTORICAL HORIZON*

IN ANSWER to a long-felt need, the church records committee of the Society of American Archivists has produced a first attempt to list all religious archival and historical depositories in the United States. Contrary to its title, this *Directory of Religious Archivists and Historians In America*, 1962 (Mimeographed. 30. p.) concentrates more heavily on depositories than on personnel. However, as its compiler, August R. Suellflow, points out, "In some regional depositories the collections do not have a permanent home, but are dependent on the place of residence of the archivist." Entries are organized alphabetically by denominational affiliation, and within denominations they are arranged alphabetically by states. No indication is given of the extent or nature of the holdings of various depositories. Among numerous Minnesota listings are the libraries of Gustavus Adolphus, Augsburg, and St. Olaf colleges; the historical society of the Minnesota conference of the Methodist church; and the Catholic dioceses of St. Cloud, Crookston, New Ulm, and Winona, as well as the archdiocese of St. Paul.

A PROGRESS report by Robert M. Brown, "Minnesota — The State Archives and Records Service Reconsidered," appears in *The American Archivist* for July, 1963. In this appraisal of the first years of the archival program in the state, Mr. Brown discusses problems of space requirements, microfilming needs, additional personnel, and the ever-present budget difficulties which, in Minnesota, are heightened by the fact that the archives commission is an independent agency whose "budget request is separate . . . and, standing alone, is vulnerable." Citing work begun, as well as services performed, such as document restoration and census records searches, the writer feels it is clear that the commission has been trying to do too much with too little. He concludes, however, that since the goal is the preservation of state records, "the Archives Commission has performed a not inconsiderable service in Minnesota." The same issue contains an article by Margaret Rose on the problem of dividing "The Archives of Dakota Territory." In 1889, with the approach of statehood, a joint commission was appointed by the constitutional conventions of North and South Dakota "to make an equitable division . . . of all Territorial property, including the public records." The author points out that half of the discussions

held by this commission centered about the archives. A final solution was reached "only by the drawing of lots."

STUDENTS of cultural history will welcome a new compilation of the writings of Montgomery Schuyler, an architectural critic of the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Edited by William H. Jordy and Ralph Coe, *American Architecture and Other Writings* (Cambridge, Massachusetts, 1961. 2 vols. 664 p.) brings together for the first time many of Schuyler's critical essays which heretofore could be found only in architectural periodicals. The works of Minnesota's Cass Gilbert are scrutinized, with particular attention being paid to the Woolworth Building. Considering that "there could be no better places than the twin cities to study the development of Western architecture," Schuyler devotes considerable attention to the Minneapolis City Hall and Public Library, Gilbert's Dayton Avenue Presbyterian Church in St. Paul, and the Pioneer Press Building, among others. The volumes include a lengthy editorial introduction as well as many illustrations and a bibliography.

A SPATE of new books dealing with the life and writings of F. Scott Fitzgerald has recently appeared. Of most obvious interest to Minnesotans will be Kenneth Eble's *F. Scott Fitzgerald* (New York, 1963. 174 p.) which deals at some length with the writer as "the boy from St. Paul." Mr. Eble considers the short stories of Fitzgerald in more detail than he does the novels. A different approach to the Minnesota author is made by William Goldhurst in *F. Scott Fitzgerald and his Contemporaries* (Cleveland, 1963. 247 p.). Mr. Goldhurst's aim is to "show Scott Fitzgerald . . . as an active member of an incredibly vital literary community." To this end, he examines the jazz-age writer's growth in the light of influences exerted by four peers: Edmund Wilson, H. L. Mencken, Ring Lardner, and Ernest Hemingway. An index and a bibliography are included in the volume, as well as an appendix containing letters to Fitzgerald. A selection of *The Letters of F. Scott Fitzgerald* (New York, 1963. 615 p.) has been compiled and edited by Andrew Turnbull. Embracing about half of the letters available, Mr. Turnbull has chosen "for readability, literary quality, and with an eye to displaying the variousness of

their author's complex nature." The letters to Fitzgerald's daughter and those to Maxwell Perkins are among the most rewarding. St. Paulites will recognize familiar names in the miscellaneous group.

THE PART of "The Sibley Trail of 1863" which traversed present-day Griggs County, North Dakota, is explored by Dana Wright in the October, 1962, issue of *North Dakota History*. Illustrated with maps of the trail followed by the expedition, the article contains detailed information which describes and locates the various camp sites used by the nearly four thousand Minnesota volunteers. Many of these sites are unmarked, but Mr. Wright has identified them geographically. The same issue contains a rambling description of an earlier trek over part of the route used by Sibley. In "Making a Path to the Pacific: The Story of the Stevens Survey," W. M. Wemett explains the haste to survey a possible railroad route westward against a background of the brewing North-South struggle rather than as a result of the California gold rush, although he points out that the gold hysteria overcame many prejudices regarding the West.

OF INTEREST to linguists as well as to Minnesotans of Swedish ancestry will be an article dealing with "Language Displacement and Language Influence in Swedish America," by Nils Hasselmo in the *Swedish Pioneer* of April, 1963. Basing his survey in part on tape-recorded interviews with first, second, and third generation Swedes in a number of Minnesota communities, the author states that American Swedish fits into the categories of both colonial and immigrant speech. Tracing in some detail the alterations in the mother tongue and the resultant "loanwords," "loanblends," and "loanshifts," Mr. Hasselmo also notes that American Swedish is "Swedish more or less strongly influenced by English in lexicon, grammar, and phonology" and is not, therefore, a mixed language.

THE BIRTH and death of a Winona County community has been told in *We Remember. . . The Beaver Story: 100 Years in the Whitewater Valley* (Winona, Winona County Historical Society, 1962. Illustrations, maps. 47 p.). Drawing chiefly on reminiscences by descendants of the original settlers, the booklet gives a brief history of the settlement and founding in 1854 of the oldest village in the Whitewater Valley. It tells how the geographic features of water power and fertile land, which originally had made Beaver a desirable location, proved in the end to be forces of destruc-

tion. Beginning in the early 1900s, floods from the Whitewater River and Beaver Creek began to change the face of the land; at first the topsoil which washed down in the deluge was welcomed, but this was followed inevitably by silt and sand. By 1955 the village was virtually deserted. Its former site is now part of the Whitewater State Park.

NEWS OF THE SOCIETY

THE DEATH of Anna E. R. Furness on March 17 has brought to an end the 115-year association of the Minnesota Historical Society and the family of its first president, Governor Alexander Ramsey. Miss Furness had been a member of the society's honorary council since 1960 and had been preceded by her sister, Laura, and her mother, Marian Ramsey Furness, both of whom served for many years on the executive council. In 1961 Miss Furness made possible the establishment by the society of an Alexander Ramsey Scholarship in honor of her grandfather, and her historic home at 265 South Exchange Street in St. Paul has been willed to the society along with a trust fund which will assure its restoration and maintenance as a memorial to Minnesota's first territorial governor.

THE SOCIETY suffered a heavy loss with the death on December 11 of Charles F. Codere, who had served since 1954 as chairman of the finance committee. Over the past decade Mr. Codere made many contributions to the institution's financial structure, one of the most important being the initiation of the annual foundation grant program, for which he was largely responsible. This has become a significant factor in the society's over-all budget. His quiet, skillful, and devoted service will be deeply missed.

THE FIRST grants to aid authors in the preparation of book-length manuscripts for the society were made in January and February from funds made available by the McKnight Foundation of St. Paul. The grants, which went to Professor Carl H. Chrislock of Augsburg College, and Helen McCann White of Washington, D.C., were for the calendar year 1964. Mrs. White is preparing a documentary account of overland migration across the northern plains in the 1860s, and Professor Chrislock is engaged in a study of the effect of foreign policy issues upon Minnesota politics from 1914 to World War II. Both authors have in the past received the society's Solon J. Buck Award for articles appearing in *Minnesota History*.



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