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# BOOK REVIEWS

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*The Mexican Mission Papers of John Lind.* A Microfilm Edition.

(St. Paul, Minnesota Historical Society, 1971. Seven rolls and printed guide, \$105.00. Single rolls, \$17.50.)

*Guide to a Microfilm Edition of The Mexican Mission Papers of John Lind.* By Deborah K. Neubeck.

(St. Paul, Minnesota Historical Society, 1971. 22 p. \$2.00.)

JOHN LIND, the first Swedish-American elected to the House of Representatives and an ex-governor of Minnesota, was President Woodrow Wilson's personal representative to Mexico in 1913. As such, he became one of the first of an important American breed, the observers of revolution. Like Joseph W. Stilwell in China and John Reed in Russia, Lind found himself in the midst of social upheaval that ultimately swept away feudal privilege, ushered in a long period of economic and political instability, and caused much soul-searching and breast-beating among American policy-makers.

Lind's mission was an early example of the presidential use of extradiplomatic channels to attain foreign policy objectives, a tactic that—for better or worse—has become common. John Lind was no Henry Kissinger: he had no diplomatic experience, he knew virtually nothing about the country to which he was sent, and he did not like Catholics. He was supposed to persuade President Victoriano Huerta to remove himself from power and hold free elections (another familiar phrase) in which he would not be a candidate. As a St. Paul newspaper put it in a bit of labored doggerel that makes the reader wince,

[Lind's] off to where those greaser ginks are raising merry hob,

To 'vise V. Huerta E.S.Q. he'd best toss up the job.  
In a literal sense, Lind's mission was a failure. It is hard

to imagine how it could have been anything else. Nevertheless, the dispatches he wrote, the people he saw, and the ideas and attitudes he expressed have an interest and a significance that go beyond the intended aims of the mission itself.

The Minnesota Historical Society has now made the papers of Lind's Mexican assignment available in a microfilm edition, and Deborah Neubeck has prepared an extremely useful and comprehensive guide to the collection. The guide includes not only a summary and description of the papers, but biographical data on Lind, historical background on the Mexican revolution and Mexican-American relations, and a selected bibliography. The microfilm itself is of high quality. Occasional items in bad physical condition or in faded, blurred script have been repaired and photographed skillfully. They will add to no historian's astigmatism. The collection will interest historians of Mexican-American relations, of foreign economic affairs, of progressivism, and of twentieth-century foreign policy generally.

As an observer of revolution, Lind tried to make sense out of what he saw. Why didn't United States-style democracy seem attractive or attainable in Mexico? Why were the Mexicans so "improvident?" Why did they show so little of the civic virtue that flourished (so Lind thought) back in the states? Why couldn't the Mexicans see that they needed to establish law and order before necessary reforms could take place? These were the kinds of questions he asked himself. His answers, which served as an important body of information for President Wilson and Secretary of State William Jennings Bryan, will impress one with their longevity but hardly with their enlightenment.

The contents of these papers cannot help suggesting a wide range of might-have-beens to the researcher. Scholars are fortunate now to have the collection available in a readily-accessible form.

*Reviewed by* GRETCHEN KREUTER, *visiting associate professor at Macalester College, 1972-73.*

*Check List of Minnesota State Documents, 1858–1923.* By Esther Jerabek.

(St. Paul, Minnesota Historical Society, 1972. viii, 216 p. Paper \$7.00.)

THE "NOTORIOUSLY POOR" recording and indexing of state documents (particularly in the past) to which Esther Jerabek refers in the very modest introduction to *Check List* has been sufficient to spur her on from her first contribution in 1936, *A Bibliography of Minnesota Territorial Documents [1849–1858]*, to complete with the present volume the inventory of Minnesota state documents from 1858 to 1950. Since the Minnesota Historical Society, the sponsor and supporter of Esther Jerabek's work, was founded in 1849 with the first territorial government, it has been possible to collect most of the state documents at the time of issue. Not surprisingly, then, both the latest effort and the one devoted to territorial documents show an almost unbelievable contrast with early bibliographical attempts such as R. R. Bowker's *State Publications*. In volume three of that series, published in 1905, twenty-four pages were devoted to Minnesota publications.

Bowker's *State Publications* was the first over-all attempt, however limited, to cover that neglected but increasingly important sector of American national bibliography. Then, Adelaide R. Hasse's *Index to Economic Material in Documents of the States of the United States* (economic in the very broad sense) — which was based on the collections to 1904 of the New York Public Library (which she had been developing) and supported by the Carnegie Institution of Washington — appeared from 1907 to 1922. It covered the following states: California, Delaware, Illinois, Kentucky, Maine, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Rhode Island, and Vermont. Such massive efforts have at times been made by individual states: in particular, by Colorado, Hawaii, Kansas, Louisiana, New Mexico, Oregon, and Virginia. Each has tended to open up, as well as make accessible and usable, portions of this ignored field of American bibliography, and, further, to encourage the production of current state check lists. And now Minnesota is the most recent state to have available in one form or another a comprehensive inventory to 1950.

The present *Check List* includes in alphabetical order not only the publications of all the central agencies of the state government, but literature of the special commissions, state institutions (such as educational and correctional bodies), and state-supported societies and agencies. A very useful note at the beginning of each new subheading indicates the year and authority of establishment. Because of the compiler's patient ferreting-out of the publications — even of the very few early items in foreign languages — there is a surprisingly modest number of entries indicated as "not located." Inclusiveness is further evidenced by the record, under "Attorney General," of briefs before the Minnesota Supreme Court and the United States Supreme Court which all were printed in extremely small editions. But while under "Legislature — House of Representatives," there are two separate entries for bills in the year 1860, there

are none under "Senate," although bills form a necessary supplement for adequate use of the house and senate *Journals*. Some statement informing the reader of the omission of bills as well as daily and weekly sections of the *Journal* would have been helpful, as would information on the possible existence of slip or other prints of laws before they appeared in the *Session Laws*. They are all government documents.

Miss Jerabek's effort contains valuable material in addition to the *Check List*. Following the main alphabetical arrangement is the full table of contents of the *Executive Documents*. (The documents are cited individually under the various author agencies as well.) The volume concludes with six pages of supplementary entries for the period August, 1923–December, 1940, and two pages of additions and corrections for the territorial period.

In conclusion, this product of the patient, dedicated effort of Esther Jerabek — with the support of the Minnesota Historical Society — should be a blessing to the increasing number of historians who have occasion to use Minnesota state documents and should present a challenge to states not having a comprehensive record.

*Reviewed by* JAMES B. CHILDS, former chief of the documents and catalog divisions and presently honorary consultant in government document bibliography at the Library of Congress.

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*Ebony Pictorial History of Black America.* By the Editors of *Ebony*.

(Chicago, Johnson Publishing Co., 1971. 3 vols. 934 p. Illustrations. \$24.95.)

THE EDITORS of *Ebony* magazine have produced in this set of volumes a fairly sound general history of the Black experience in America suitable for secondary school students and the interested layman. As befits a "pictorial" history, the three books are lavishly illustrated with generally pertinent reproductions and photographs. Very few of the illustrations, however, are unknown to anyone conversant with the field. While the illustrations are usually helpful in illuminating the text, more synchronization of the two would have been useful. The lack of correlation is most evident in volume two where the text lags several pages behind the subject matter of the reproductions. This makes for disconcerting reading.

It is obvious that the editors of the set aimed their narrative at the general public rather than the specialist, since no attempt is made at a sophisticated interpretation of the various historical experiences of the Black American. Thus while an adequate résumé of the African empires of Ghana, Mali, and Songhay is presented, the discussion of slavery and the slave trade reveals little of the tremendous amount of work that has been done in these areas by African, European, and American scholars in the last ten years. There is no effort to compare and contrast African with European slavery or British with Portuguese and Spanish modes of

bondage. The section on the abolitionist movement is commonplace and might have been curtailed in favor of an expansion of the discussion of the free Negro in the North and South before the Civil War. The second volume of the set, dealing with the period from Reconstruction to 1954, is an improvement over the first which carries events from Africa to the Civil War. There are, however, glaring omissions. The important roles of the Black cowboy and the "buffalo soldiers" in the post-Civil War West are glossed over, as is the development of Black business enterprise in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. It would have been helpful to an understanding of the present-day Black urban community if a narrative of the development of at least one northern Black ghetto had been included. Other annoying omissions include the lack of adequate attention to Black contributions to the film before Sidney Poitier; Black participation in segregated sports, especially the Negro professional leagues; and the relationship between Blacks and radical political movements, most importantly the Communist party.

The third volume, dealing with events since the Supreme Court school desegregation decision of 1954, is the best in the lot, with an excellent coverage not only of the mainstream of Black development but also of the various forms and types of Black separatism and Black nationalism. A number of annoying minor errors in the text, however, could have been eliminated by more careful proofreading. Lyndon Johnson, of course, ran against Goldwater in 1964, not 1967, and a perusal of any issue of the Muslim organ, *Muhammed Speaks*, would have revealed a considerable amount of commercial advertising, although most of it does concern Muslim-run enterprises.

*Reviewed by* NORMAN LEDERER, director of the ethnic and minority studies center at the University of Wisconsin—Stevens Point.

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*Paul U. Kellogg and the Survey: Voices for Social Welfare and Social Justice.* By Clarke A. Chambers.

(Minneapolis, University of Minnesota Press, 1971. xii, 283 p. Illustrations. \$10.00.)

AS THE TITLE indicates, this is a joint biography of a man, Paul Kellogg (1879–1958), and a periodical, *Survey*, which Kellogg edited from 1912 until it ceased publication in 1952. Kellogg's association with the magazine, first called *Charities*, began in 1902. He joined the staff in that year as an assistant editor after several years as a reporter in his home town, Kalamazoo, Michigan, and one year of study at Columbia University. For fifty years Kellogg shared in formulating and directing the policies of the journal which, beginning as the house organ of the New York Charity Organization Society, became the most eloquent and revered voice of the social justice wing of the twentieth-century American reform movement. His service to the magazine and to the cause of reform extended from the progressive

era through the 1920s, the New Deal, World War II, and the Truman era.

According to Professor Chambers, Kellogg was "a born reporter." His major achievement before becoming editor of *Survey* was the direction of a comprehensive investigation of conditions of work and life in Pittsburgh which was carried out in 1907 and 1908 with the financial backing of the Russell Sage Foundation. Kellogg assigned and co-ordinated the work of the investigators, maintained relations with community leaders, and edited the six informative and provocative volumes comprising the published account of the *Pittsburgh Survey*. He was a member of the group of social workers and reformers who drafted the social welfare proposals incorporated in the Progressive party platform of 1912. He was also instrumental in the establishment of the Industrial Relations Commission of the Wilson administration.

Under Kellogg's editorship, *Survey* became two magazines: *Survey Midmonthly*, a trade journal for social workers and other members of the serving professions, and *Survey Graphic*, a journal of "social exploration and interpretation" aimed at the general public. Kellogg devoted most of his attention and effort to the *Graphic*. From time to time it published special issues that explored problems such as race relations, unemployment, education, communication, housing, and world hunger. A 1925 issue on the New Negro and two numbers on segregation (1942 and 1947) are particularly notable. The *Graphic* was unique in its own day because of its emphasis on both action and analysis. Its bound volumes are enormously useful to students seeking to understand the origin and nature of twentieth-century American social reform.

Professor Chambers' book is based mainly upon the *Survey Associates Papers* and the *Paul U. Kellogg Papers* in the Social Welfare History Archives of the University of Minnesota. The study enhances the value of the *Survey* as a historical source by illuminating the conditions under which the magazine was produced and edited. The author brings unrivaled knowledge of both the subject and the period to the work and tells the story of Kellogg and the *Survey* with clarity, objectivity, and understanding.

*Reviewed by* ROBERT H. BREMNER, professor of history at Ohio State University, who is a historian of social reform and social welfare in the United States.

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*The Winning of the Midwest: Social and Political Conflict, 1888–1896.* By Richard J. Jensen.

(Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 1971. xvii, 357 p. \$12.50.)

ELECTION ANALYSTS and political historians are fascinated with the "critical election" concept that identifies a crucial election in which an emerging political pattern forecasts party fortunes for years or even decades to come. Richard Jensen apparently is included in these ranks, for he sees in the 1896 elections a re-emergence of midwestern

Republican party power that lasted down to Franklin D. Roosevelt's New Deal.

Jensen's *The Winning of the Midwest* is a study of the dynamic qualities of midwestern campaigns and elections in six states — Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Ohio, and Wisconsin — between 1888 and 1896. These years were important ones for they began with Republican incumbency, witnessed rapid switches in voter loyalty which brought the Democrats to power (1889–1892), and ended with a new Republican ascendancy in 1896. In these years of change, according to Jensen, a political pluralist, history in a broad sense was reflected in the attempts of competing politicians to gain or hold public office by anticipating or following alterations in public opinion on a range of issues. To Jensen, political change is mirrored in who wins elections and is a function of integrated social developments that precede and accompany election campaigns.

The Jensen analytical approach combines traditional historiography with the statistical data analysis so long practiced by sociologists and political scientists. To ascertain public aspirations and beliefs Jensen concentrates upon voting patterns, the activities of various "interests" (particularly religious, ethnic, immigrant, and economic), and the competitive efforts of politicians to harness the tide of public opinion. Obviously, modern opinion surveys are not available for study — they began about 1936 — but Jensen has made skillful use of political canvasses (opinion surveys, of a type), census information (from local, state, and national sources), and voter analyses at county, ward, and even township levels.

Jensen has woven these materials into a series of case histories on campaign styles and political personalities, on the religious basis of partisanship ("pietists" and "liturgicals" varied significantly or measurably in loyalty to the Republican party), on education and the conflict between parochial and public schools, on the tariff issue, the economic and political impact of the depression of 1893–94, and labor conflict. Behind these political dynamics Jensen finds broad underlying social movements. Perhaps the best example is that of the prohibitionists who came largely from pietist Protestant groups (Methodists and Congregationalists). They either captured control or exerted heavy pressure upon the dominant midwestern Republican parties and in turn caused a shift by liturgical groups (largely Catholic and Lutheran) to the Democratic party.

Jensen argues that the truly dominant forces affecting political change were party loyalty and religious background. While acknowledging the contributions of economic and class issues to political struggle, he believes the latter measurably less important.

There is irony in all this. Political reform for some pietists was like casting out sin and the devil, and hence it was easy for them to move into the Democratic party when William Jennings Bryan was nominated in 1896. But when Bryan's reformism turned into a secular crusade and political revival, it turned off pietists and liturgicals alike. Pietists considered secularization blasphemous and sacrilegious, and Catholic and Protestant liturgicals attacked bimetal inflation as fiscally irresponsible and returned to

the Republican party. The result in 1896 was another political realignment (a "normalizing" election?) that restored power to the Republicans. According to Jensen, William McKinley won because his campaign appealed to the pluralist political character of Americans and midwesterners alike and promised neither reform nor redistribution of money, production, or power, but equal and fair treatment to a vast American political center that cut across ethnic, occupational, economic, and industrial groups. In 1896 it was felt that differences could be negotiated, and, hence, Bryan's demands for unconditional surrender by the forces of evil were forsaken.

However well written and fascinating Jensen's analysis, it is questionable whether 1896 was really as critical a midwestern election year as he maintains. The contention that 1896 produced decades of Republican hegemony does not square with his other claim that it created a new spirit of independence among voters whose ties could shift from one party to another. Republican success after 1896 seems likely to have been sustained by the "new nationalism" that followed on the heels of war in 1898 — which Republicans used successfully against Democratic critics of American imperialism. The Republican party's good fortune was further enhanced by a strong political personality, Teddy Roosevelt. His "style" of dynamic action, when pitted against Bryan's moralistic fervor, overwhelmingly captured the imagination of midwesterners and the nation.

Even more important were the new seeds of protest that had been planted. Minnesota elected Democratic governors in 1898, 1904, 1906, 1908, and 1914. A new movement of dissent, the Nonpartisan League, took hold and won in North Dakota in 1915–16, and a third party, the Farmer-Labor party, was created in Minnesota in 1918. As well, the Wilson Democratic surges in 1912 and 1916, accompanied by the Bull Moose challenge, threatened conservative Republicans and were halted by, more than anything else, the misfortunes of a world war. In this reviewer's opinion, receptivity to the New Deal and the rise of the Democrats in the Midwest were rooted in Jensen's 1889–1892 Democratic realignment which twice was shattered by war (1898 and 1917). As measured in a longer time span, the 1889–92 period is possibly the critical realignment, and 1912 and 1932 were the years of "normalizing" elections after all.

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*Reviewed by* MILLARD L. GIESKE, professor of political science and director of programs for the office of international programs at the University of Minnesota.

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*The Reformers and the American Indian.* By Robert Winston Mardock.

(Columbia, University of Missouri Press, 1971. 245 p. \$9.00.)

MR. MARDOCK'S BOOK deals with the formation of United States Indian policy in the years between 1860 and 1890. This was the bloody and heartbreaking period

in which the country shifted from a policy of pushing native Americans out of the way of settlement to a program of forced assimilation. They were the decades that saw the last of the Plains wars, the confinement of Indian people to reservations, the brief experiment at turning over Indian administration to the country's Protestant churches, and the beginnings of a sustained effort to stamp out every vestige of American Indian culture. The period ended with the Dawes Allotment Act of 1887, under which individual Indians were made reluctant landowners in a final and disastrous attempt to force them into the mold of white men.

The story is not new. Both Loring Priest (*Uncle Sam's Stepchildren*, 1942) and Henry Fritz (*The Movement For Indian Assimilation*, 1963) have covered the same ground. Mr. Mardock, however, discusses it from the point of view of the reformers and humanitarians who fought for a policy of assimilation. He focuses throughout upon the pressures by which that policy was achieved rather than upon its implementation or its immediate results.

His thesis — that the "friends of the Indian" were drawn from the same small but intrepid band of Americans who battled for Negro rights, women's rights, and in later years the rights of farmers and workingmen — is not difficult to establish. Names like Peter Cooper, Wendell Phillips, Lucretia Mott, John Greenleaf Whittier, and Lydia Maria Child are familiar in many contexts. For others — people like Alfred B. Meacham, John Beeson, William and Herbert Welsh, Helen Hunt Jackson, and Minnesota's Bishop Henry B. Whipple — the Indian cause became central. But they all had strong links with the reformist mainstream.

In telling their story Mr. Mardock gives a thorough and thoughtful account of the movement for Indian policy reform in these years. Like the other historians who have dealt with the subject, however, he stops short of a reappraisal. He does not point out the full irony in the fact that land allotment, which became the ultimate goal of the reformers, probably did more economic and cultural damage to American Indian people than any other single measure.

Obviously it would be unfair to judge nineteenth-century reformers on the basis of twentieth-century hindsight. The realities of nineteenth-century American society did not admit even the possibility of cultural pluralism. The choice then faced by Indians and those sympathetic with them was stark: assimilation or extermination. To realize this (and to realize how narrowly the second alternative was avoided), one only has to read Mr. Mardock's careful study.

Nevertheless, one cannot help wishing that, writing in 1971, he had gone on to examine more fully the reasons for the tragic nearsightedness among men of good will who identified civilization with private ownership; who limited

religious freedom to Christianity; and who confused the Indian, struggling to stay out of American society, with the Black, struggling to get in.

*Reviewed by* RHODA R. GILMAN, assistant educational supervisor at the Minnesota Historical Society.

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*Swedes in Chicago: A Demographic and Social Study of the 1846-1880 Immigration.* By Ulf Beijbom.

(Växjö, Sweden, Uppsala University and the Chicago Historical Society, 1971. 381 p. Illustrations. \$12.50.)

IT IS virtually impossible in this brief review to summarize the highly detailed information presented in this model study of an immigrant group in a major American city. The author has used all available material, both in the United States and Sweden, for the period covered. He could have carried the study forward to the richer period after 1880 had not the federal census of 1890 been destroyed and the censuses of 1900 and after been made inaccessible by federal restrictions. The available material and the problems of its use are admirably described and analyzed in the two opening chapters. Anyone considering doing a similar study, for example in the Twin Cities, would be well advised to read these chapters and in fact the entire book. The author compares the Swedish group's experience with that of the other immigrant groups in Chicago for the period, thus adding to the usefulness of the volume.

The myth that all Swedish immigrants came from rural areas is dispelled by this book. One of five came from urban centers. The author has traced the origins of the Chicago Swedes in Sweden and shows where they came from, their occupations, and sex. He also investigates in text as well as by dot maps and statistical tables, the distribution, occupations, church affiliations, organizational activities, political preferences, and leadership of the Swedish element in the city. The presentation is highly detailed but has useful summaries at the ends of chapters and a concluding section. Much space is devoted to the religious life of the Swedish community, from Gustav Unonius' St. Augarius Church through the Augustana Synod, the various other Lutheran groups, the Methodists, Baptists, and others. In fact, there is an appendix on the church archives. There are also statistical appendixes, a limited index, a full bibliography, and a few contemporary photographs.

*Reviewed by* CARLTON C. QUALEY, who has had a long-standing interest in immigration and ethnic groups in the United States.

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# news & notes

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THE MINNESOTA Historical Society's 123rd annual meeting will be held on Saturday, October 7, at the Hilton Hotel in St. Paul. Like last year's meeting, this one will take the form of a day-long program of lectures and seminars. Unlike last year, however, the meeting will be preceded by a Friday evening, October 6, open house at the Historical Building that will feature department exhibits and a book auction sponsored by the society library.

The main speaker at the noon luncheon on October 7 will be Alex Haley, author of *Autobiography of Malcolm X*. His topic will be "Black Heritage: A Saga of Black History." The evening dinner will feature "An Evening with Mark Twain," a dramatization by Warren Frost, assistant professor in theater at the University of Minnesota.

Sessions will be held on "Viking Penetration of North America," "Minnesota Influences on U.S. Foreign Policy," "Immigration in Minnesota," "Frontier Show Biz," "Progressivism in Minnesota," and "Women in History." Participants will include anthropologist Birgitta L. Wallace, University of Minnesota professors Barbara Stuhler, Rudolph J. Vecoli, and Donald Z. Woods, as well as Carl H. Chrislock of Augsburg College and Gretchen Kreuter of Macalester College.

JOHN E. HAYNES has been named winner of the Minnesota Historical Society's \$250.00 Solon J. Buck Award for the best article to appear in *Minnesota History* in 1971. His winning ef-

fort, "Revolt of the 'Timber Beasts,' IWW Lumber Strike in Minnesota," was in the Spring issue. Mr. Haynes, staff assistant on taxation and school finance for the office of Governor Wendell R. Anderson, received his B.A. in history at Florida State University in 1966 and his M.A. at the University of Minnesota in 1968.

Winner of the Theodore C. Blegen Award for 1971 is Newell Searle, whose "Minnesota National Forest: The Politics of Compromise, 1898-1908" was published in the Fall issue. The Blegen Award of \$125.00 was instituted last year to honor from time to time (but not necessarily annually) outstanding articles in *Minnesota History* by society staff members whose efforts are not eligible for the Buck Award. Mr. Searle, who was research assistant to the director of the society when he wrote the article, received his B.A. in history and geography at Macalester College in 1965 and his M.A. in history and education at the University of Wisconsin in 1966.

The awards will be presented at the annual meeting of the Minnesota Historical Society in October. The committee for both awards this year consisted of Ernest R. Sandeen, professor of history at Macalester College; George W. Garlid, professor of history at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls; and Kenneth Carley, editor of this magazine.

JAMES TAYLOR DUNN, who has retired as head librarian of the Minnesota Historical Society, is now a research associate for the society. Mr. Dunn

served as librarian from 1955 until late 1971 after some seven years as librarian of the New York State Historical Association at Cooperstown. A native St. Paulite and a summer resident at Marine, Mr. Dunn has become a leading historian of the St. Croix River Valley. He treated several St. Croix subjects, did a history of Marine, and capped his efforts with his book, *The St. Croix: Midwest Border River* (1965) for the famed *Rivers of America Series*.

Mr. Dunn's successor as head librarian for the society is James D. Thueson of Minneapolis, former head of cataloging and assistant professor at the University of Minnesota. A native of Stillwater, Minnesota, he received his B.A. and M.A. degrees from the university.

FEW INSTITUTIONS have seemed as important to any people as church congregations to Black Americans. They have "carried the burdens for education, social discipline, political organization, and inter-personal relations" and have been a "refuge in a hostile white world."

An article entitled "Communities and Congregations: The Black Church in St. Paul, 1860-1900" by Jon Butler, which appeared in *The Journal of Negro History* for April, 1971, suggests, however, that this common generalization does not hold true for St. Paul. Mr. Butler says that a high percentage of St. Paul's Black churchgoers of the period were women and that the city's Black population was unrepresentatively male and single for over a century. The histories and socio-

political outlooks of various congregations—including Pilgrim Baptist (founded 1864) and St. James African Methodist Episcopal (founded 1870)—are examined in this seventeen-page article.

THE MINNEAPOLIS publishing firm of Ross & Haines has added another title to its long list of reprints of hard-to-get volumes with historical interest for the Upper Midwest. *Chippewa Exercises: Being a Practical Introduction Into the Study of the Chippewa Language* (Reprint edition, 1971. 512 p. \$12.50) was written by Reverend Chrysostom Verwyst, who served as a Catholic missionary in northern Wisconsin between 1878 and 1912. The book, first published in 1901, was intended to supplement the grammar and dictionary of the Chippewa language compiled some fifty years earlier by Reverend Frederick Baraga. As the subtitle suggests, the author conceived it as a useful step-by-step lesson plan for those interested in learning to use the language. The value of the reprint is enhanced by a brief introduction written by John D. Nichols, who discusses the relationship of Chippewa (Ojibway) to other Algonquian languages and traces the efforts of linguists to record it in written form. He also adds some hints on pronunciation. Mr. Nichols, who is a graduate student in linguistics at Harvard University, is preparing a doctoral dissertation on the use of the verb in the Ojibway language.

"TO THE AMERICAN INDIAN, everything he made had a function. The idea of hanging a painting on a wall or placing a sculpture on a pedestal, just to admire it, was completely alien." This analysis is one of many which will interest art and Indian lay-historians in Norman Feder's *Two Hundred Years of American Indian Art* (New York, 1971. 128 p. \$12.50). Feder assembled for the Whitney Museum of American Art a magnificent collection of creative works documenting the people who inhabited North America during the two centuries when Europeans were exploring and settling the land and irrevocably changing the Indian's way of life. This book includes 158 black-and-white and color photographs of pieces in that show (the first major exhibition of non-prehistoric and non-contemporary native art) and a twenty-two page text which will fasci-

nate some readers and perhaps provoke others. Feder controverts the widely held belief that Indians virtually stopped creating works of significance after contact with white men and goods and, instead, stresses the extent to which Indian art was enhanced, at least for a time, by the introduction of metal tools, glass beads, aniline dyes, and even oil paint and broken glass. The majority of the art works—handsome masks, carved house posts, unusual shaman's rattles and charms, and, on loan from the Minnesota Historical Society, catlinite pipe bowls, a painted rawhide shield, and a carved tree-dweller doll—are religious objects. Selecting the items for their aesthetic value rather than on criteria of technical skill or rarity, Feder argues that ceremonial objects, frequently vision-inspired, tended to be the most forceful, inventive, and complex because they were less confined by traditional design and practical considerations. For admirers of native American arts, the excellent photographs bring renewed appreciation for the skill and taste that "triumphed over limited means to produce objects of high aesthetic quality."

Marilyn Ziebarth

REPRINTED IN *Ethnic Voters and the Election of Lincoln* (Lincoln, University of Nebraska Press, 1971. 226 p. \$9.75) is Hildegard B. Johnson's "The Election of 1860 and the Germans in Minnesota." Originally published in the March, 1947, issue of *Minnesota History*, the article was selected by editor Frederick C. Luebke to appear along with ten others. Mrs. Johnson's research indicates that even though the majority of Minnesota's Germans supported Lincoln in the election of 1860 (Lincoln's Republican party was furiously capitalizing on growing dissatisfaction with Democratic rule), Germans divided politically along religious lines. In Lutheran settlements, they returned Republican majorities; in Catholic settlements, Democratic majorities prevailed.

MORE HOMESTEADS have been taken up by settlers since 1890 than in all the years between the passage of the Homestead Act in 1862 and 1890—the year when the census bureau announced that it could no longer draw a frontier line separating the settled from the unsettled part of the country. Free land after that date,

however, was by and large unhospitable to those who made their living farming and raising livestock.

The story of one settler who moved to the dry, bunch-grass country is retold by Walker D. Wyman in *Frontier Woman: The Life of a Woman Homesteader on the Dakota Frontier* (University of Wisconsin—River Falls Press, 1972. 115 p. Cloth \$4.95, paper \$3.50). Based on the original notes and letters of Grace Fairchild, a Wisconsin teacher who went to South Dakota in 1898, the story tells of her amazing efforts to work and build a sizable farm and to provide for the education of her nine children with the decreasing assistance of her husband who was ill-suited for pioneer life. Sketches by Helen B. Wyman accompany the text.

TWO ENGAGING and informative volumes of personal reminiscences have been written and published by the late Frank P. Leslie of Wayzata: *The Resurrection of the Republican Party in Minnesota 1932–1950* (1971) and *Memoirs of Frank P. Leslie* (1971). The first volume recounts the dramatic revival of the Republican party in the state, after its disastrous defeats on the national and state level in the 1930s, by the successive election of governors Harold E. Stassen, Edward J. Thye, Luther W. Youngdahl, and C. Elmer Anderson. Leslie, a prime mover in this effort in his capacity as party finance chairman, contributes to the historical record numerous behind-the-scenes events and episodes—poignant moments of defeat, joyful scenes of victory, his unsuccessful attempt to dissuade Governor Thye from vetoing Minnesota's secondary boycott legislation, his refusal of the offer from President Dwight D. Eisenhower to become the first undersecretary of HEW, and his work with the late James Forrestal to set up a national civil defense program. Written with verve and candor, this reminiscence makes good reading about a period of Minnesota history long neglected by historians and political scientists.

The second volume traces the Leslie family in the Midwest from the time Leslie's grandfather settled in a sod hut at Mitchell, South Dakota, in 1881 to the present time. He follows his father's career from a young immigrant proofreader in St. Paul to his founding of the John Leslie Paper Company. Similarly, he sketches the history of his mother's family, the

McAfees, who built a dam and grist mill at Nine Mile Creek in Bloomington. Leslie's account also records the emergence of Minneapolis as the lumbering, flour milling, wholesaling, and financial center of the Northwest. He relates with wit and relish the advent of the telephone, electric lights, and the automobile—editorializing on how it reshaped the life styles of his and other American families. Included in *Memoirs* is a "Leslie Genealogy." Altogether, this publication contains much information about the business, civic, and cultural patterns of Minneapolis.

Russell Fridley

A COMPARISON of "Moberg, The Emigrant Saga, and Reality," by Helmer Lång appears in the January, 1972, issue of the *Swedish Pioneer Historical Quarterly*. Ably translated by Michael Brook, former acting chief librarian of the Minnesota Historical Society, the article examines the Vilhelm Moberg trilogy against the historical evidence of letters, diaries, newspapers, and geography. While acknowledging the literary license a novelist should enjoy, Mr. Lång asserts that if an author of historical novels "claims to make a scholarly contribution," he may expect that claim to be scrutinized closely. The article documents Moberg's departures from historical reality in his portrayal of the emigrants' crossing, the characters themselves, and the locations. Readers of emigrant history, persons of Swedish descent, and residents of Washington and Chisago counties will particularly enjoy this critique.

Mary Nagle

A NEW REPRINT of Louise Phelps Kellogg's regional history classic, *The British Régime in Wisconsin and the Northwest* (Madison, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 361 p. \$15.00), has been issued by Da Capo Press. Originally published in 1935, this volume was the logical second step to the author's *French Régime in Wisconsin and the Northwest*. Continuing the story of the international struggle for the wealth of the Upper Midwest, the book traces the rise and fall of the British régime which, the author shows, was economically, socially, and politically related to the fur trade. The narrative spans the fifty-five years from the French departure in 1760 to the peace treaty of 1815, which drew

the final curtain on British control of areas in the United States.

HENRY DAVID THOREAU'S Minnesota visit of 1861 approximately a year before his death is among his journeys mapped and described briefly in a handsome book, *A Thoreau Gazetteer*, by Robert F. Stowell, edited by William L. Howarth (Princeton, New Jersey, Princeton University Press, 1970. xi, 56 p. \$7.50). The volume contains twenty-three maps and an explanatory text as a geographical guide to the travels of the Concord, Massachusetts, author-philosopher between 1836 and 1861. Thoreau himself drew seven of the maps, others are contemporary with his time, and still others have been reconstructed for the book from his writings and other sources.

The Minnesota section of the volume offers three maps and views of Minneapolis "a few years after Thoreau's visit," of St. Paul in 1856, and of the St. Paul levee in 1859. Unfortunately, the modern map of Thoreau's Minnesota journey misplaces both Fort Ridgely and the Redwood Agency, which the author visited by means of the steamer "Frank Steele." The book includes a chronological list of Thoreau trips outside the Concord area and an index that correlates place names in the author's works with the maps presented in the gazetteer.

THE SURVIVING aboriginal skills, social and religious systems, and normative values of the Prairie band of the Potawatomi in the mid-1930s are described by Ruth Landes in her latest anthropological study, *The Prairie Potawatomi: Tradition and Ritual in the Twentieth Century* (Madison, University of Wisconsin Press, 1970. 420 p. Illustrations. \$12.50). Sponsored by Columbia University, with a grant from the Social Sciences Research Council, Mrs. Landes spent several months in 1935-36 observing and talking with some of the tribe's 870 members on the reservation near Mayetta, Kansas. Although some individuals and groups considered themselves exploited and poor, the author asserts that they were "no museum dolls salvaged from history's dumps. They were men and women evolved clearly from their ancestors' ways." She recorded both the Indians' preoccupation with traditional beliefs and customs and their positive accommo-

dations to the white man's world. In the book's introduction, she discusses her findings in the light of return visits in 1957 and 1964, continued correspondence with Indian friends and informants, and recent publications.

THE OPENING of the Lake Superior mining frontier in the 1840s is described by Donald Chaput in *The Cliff: America's First Great Copper Mine* (Kalamazoo, Michigan, Sequoia Press, 1971. 116 p. \$12.00). Although Mr. Chaput concentrates on a single mine, it is in the hope "that in some respects the detailed history of one mine will make some contribution to mining and frontier history" and will supplement broader studies. In his hands it does so, for he carries the story of the Cliff mine from the early attempts of the French and British to exploit Michigan copper, through the period of discovery and development by American interests, and on to the days of decline in the later decades of the nineteenth century. He includes not only the history of the mine's management but some description of the men who worked it and the transient community that grew up around it. Here he dwells on the hardy "professional miners" from Cornwall who made up the bulk of its early labor force. Not all readers, however, will agree when he states that the later influx of "Italians, Finns, Poles, and Croats . . . were not about to engage in the suicidal practice of working hard to get a day's pay." The volume is thoroughly documented, lavishly illustrated, and contains an index and a helpful list of mining terms.

Rhoda R. Gilman

A FASCINATING and enlightening study of the minds of ten U.S. chief executives is available in George Sinkler's *The Racial Attitudes of American Presidents From Abraham Lincoln to Theodore Roosevelt* (Garden City, Doubleday, 1972. 500 p. Paper \$2.50). Covering a crucial period for racial minorities—the 1860s through the turn of the century—Sinkler takes up each president's biases and official actions and each time examines his attitudes toward the "Negro problem," "Indian problem," and "Oriental problem." From debates over whether or not the Black man descended from the same species as the white man to hysterical diatribes against mixing the races, the investigation is historically

and psychologically revealing. Lincoln's attitude toward the 300 Sioux condemned for their role in the Sioux War of 1862 is treated briefly. The author indicates that Lincoln, reflecting a common racial bias, at first considered executing only the Sioux who had raped white females, but, in Lincoln's words, "contrary to my expectation only two of this class were found." (The thirty-eight who eventually were hanged were singled out for massacre as opposed to battlefield killing.)

THE YEAR 1912 saw the publication of Ole E. Rølvaag's second (but first-published) novel, *Amerika-Breve fra P.A. Smevik til Hans Far og Bror i Norge, Samlet ved Paal Mørck* (America Letters from P.A. Smevik to His Father and Brother in Norway, Collected by Paal Mørck). Rølvaag published the story of a young immigrant's first years in America (1896-1900) under a pseudonym because he had drawn so directly from his own experiences and emotions in South Dakota in the years 1896-1902.

Sixty years later those of us who do not know Rølvaag's first language can read this novel in a translation by the author's daughter, Ella Valborg Tweet, and granddaughter, Solveig Zempel. It is entitled *The Third Life of Per Smevik* (Minneapolis, 1971. xxiv, 136 p. \$5.95).

In twenty-three letters Rølvaag traces Per Smevik's life journey from Nordland—which he leaves with the intention of returning when he has amassed \$1,000—to Lewisville, North Dakota, from which he sends advice to his brother and widowed father who are coming to join him. By the end of the book Per knows that he is not likely to see Norway again. Clearly this early work reflects Rølvaag's preoccupation with the spiritual problems of the immigrant, to which he was to give such memorable form in the novels which brought him renown.

In this translation the preface by "Paal Mørck" has been replaced by a biographical introduction by Mrs. Tweet. Another change is that the author's numbering of the letters has been dropped; instead, they are simply grouped by year. In the process, unfortunately, eight letters have been given dates different from those in Rølvaag's original, thus lengthening the time span of the novel by a year.

This, however, will only inconvenience the student, and we owe a debt of gratitude to an enterprising local press—Dillon—for a very welcome addition to the Rølvaag canon in English.

Michael Brook

"THE HAPPY AND THE POWERFUL do not go into exile," wrote Alexis de Tocqueville, "and there are no surer guarantees of equality among men than poverty and misfortune." The human history of the men, women, and children, mostly poor, who between 1855 and 1934 expectantly disembarked at the port of New York is recounted in Ann Novotny's *Strangers at the Door: Ellis Island, Castle Garden, and the Great Migration to America* (Riverside, Connecticut, Chatham Press, 1971. 160 p. 198 illustrations. \$12.50). Castle Garden was the first "processing" center, established in 1855 at Battery Park, New York City. Soon a much larger facility was needed, and in 1892 Ellis Island was opened to provide identification, medical inspection and possible rejection, housing, and transportation for immigrants.

Although the book concentrates on the period of the greatest wave of immigration, text and illustrations cover the pre-1855 immigration (including slavery), the declining years of immigration, the use of the island facilities as a detention and deportation center for radicals and "enemy aliens," the immigration recruitment schemes of railroads and land promoters, and the changing native attitudes and policies toward immigrants as reflected in cartoons of the time. Not surprisingly the photographs comprise the most compelling side of the book. They register the joy, wonder, and shock of the escapees as they finally arrived at the golden door, the fear, humiliation, and boredom of the long inspection lines, and the unexpected hardships of life in America (captured in Lewis Hine and Jacob Riis portraits). Cuts from rare books about the New World and news magazines such as *Harper's Weekly* enhance the story.

A RECENTLY PUBLISHED two-volume history of the Bank of Montreal (*Canada's First Bank*, 471, 453 p. New York, 1967) deserves attention from Americans—particularly those concerned with the fur trade and with transcontinental railroad promo-

tion. Commissioned by the bank in commemoration of its own sesquicentennial, the work far transcends the usual narrow limits of a company history and becomes in effect a broad study of Canadian banking and economic development. The author, Merrill Denison, devotes considerable space in his first volume to tracing the intimate relationship between the fur trade, especially the North West Company, and efforts to establish a Canadian bank. He points out that although "In the voluminous literature on the Canadian fur trade the name of the Bank of Montreal is rarely encountered. . . . In 1821 no less than four directors had an interest in the fur trade as partners in large supply houses."

Of particular interest to students of the fur trade south of the international border is a twelve-page appendix dealing with "the little-known dynasty or commercial complex of Phyns and Ellices and their numerous relations, associates, and affiliates." Not only was this group "indubitably responsible" for founding the Bank of Montreal, but it was also the moving force behind the XY Company, and among Canadian fur trade interests it was the one most consistently involved with business to the south and west of the Great Lakes.

In the second volume, a chapter on financing the Canadian Pacific Railroad includes prominent mention of James J. Hill and Norman W. Kittson, two Minnesotans of Canadian origin, who joined with George Stephen and Donald A. Smith, both associated with the Bank of Montreal, to form a syndicate for construction of the first trans-Canadian railway.

Rhoda R. Gilman

RIVERS and river towns—their history, geography, and folklore—are the subject of Norbury L. Wayman's *Life on the River: A Pictorial History of the Mississippi, the Missouri, and the Western River System* (New York, 1971. \$12.50). Beginning with the earliest history of the Mississippi Basin mound builders, Mr. Wayman outlines the impact of the waterways on the people who traveled them for business or pleasure and settled on their banks. Nine-hundred photos, drawings, etchings, paintings, sketches, and maps—many of them previously unpublished—make the volume an interesting patchwork panorama.

Since 1849, when it was chartered by the first territorial legislature, the Minnesota Historical Society has been preserving a record of the state's history. Its outstanding library and its vast collection of manuscripts, newspapers, pictures, and museum objects reflect this activity. The society also interprets Minnesota's past, telling the story of the state and region through publications, museum displays, tours, institutes, and restoration of historic sites. The work of the society is supported in part by the state and in part by private contributions, grants, and membership dues. It is a chartered public institution governed by an executive council of interested citizens and belonging to all who support it through membership and participation in its programs. You are cordially invited to use its resources and to join in its efforts to make Minnesota a community with a sense of strength from the past and purpose for the future.

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