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# BOOK REVIEWS

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*The Journals of Jonathan Carver and Related Documents, 1766-1770.* Edited by John Parker.

(St. Paul, Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1976. 244 p. \$10.50.)

THIS BOOK has long been needed. Captain Jonathan Carver's explorations of the upper Mississippi region during the 1766-1770 period were known for almost 140 years only by his published *Travels*, very popular in their day and the first account of the area and its inhabitants to appear in English. Many editions were published in England, America, and Europe where Carver's story became available in German, French, and Dutch. Appendix Three of this volume consists of a bibliography of all these printings. But the published *Travels*, though interesting, raised many problems for serious historians. And Carver's reputation suffered as they were debated.

Not until the early 1920s did it become generally known that Carver's original manuscript journals were in the British Museum in London, where they had been deposited as part of the papers of Joseph Banks to whom Carver had dedicated his *Travels*. We still do not know who first found them there, but in 1921 J. Franklin Jameson went through them for T. C. Elliott who was interested in Carver's use of the name Oregon (its first appearance in print) in his published *Travels*. Jameson reported that the word appeared only once in the journals under the entry for May 6, 1767, when Carver noted orders arriving at Prairie du Chien from Major Robert Rogers, British commander of the area, directing Carver and his colleagues "to find out the great river Ourigan that runs into the South Sea and a northwest passage if possible." Elliott received a transcript of part of the journal and used it for several good articles on Carver in the *Quarterly of the Oregon Historical Society*. A year or so later, Solon J. Buck secured photostats of the complete journals for the Minnesota Historical Society. These were used by many scholars, notably by Louise P. Kellogg in her historical articles and her book, *The British Régime in Wisconsin and the Northwest*.

It is certainly time for the manuscript journals to appear in

print so that the differences between them and the published *Travels* can be identified and appraised. Staff members of the Minnesota Historical Society have hoped for such an edition since the superintendencies of Buck and Theodore C. Blegen. Editor John Parker of the University of Minnesota spent more than twelve years working part time on his assignment. His efforts included a number of visits to England in search of additional background relating to Carver's later years and the assistance given him by others in preparing his *Travels*. Parker's findings are set forth in detail in a 56-page introduction, and the journals themselves follow on pages 57-179. Noteworthy in his introduction are Parker's descriptions of the four versions of the journals and his interesting ways of handling them.

Another wholly new contribution in this volume is James Stanley Goddard's "Journal of a Voyage, 1766-67." It was edited by Carolyn Gilman of the society's publications staff from an eighteenth-century copy in the library of McGill University, Montreal. Rogers appointed Goddard secretary of the Carver expedition, and Goddard's journal backs up Carver's narrative. Three appendixes follow. The first contains such documents as Rogers' commissions to Carver, Goddard, and Captain James Tute; Carver's letter to his wife after his return to Michilimackinac; and other communications, most of which have already been published in articles but which belong with this book to complete the story. The second appendix is "Carver's Dakota Dictionary," edited by Raymond J. DeMallie, a specialist in Siouan languages. The third is the bibliography already mentioned.

The Minnesota Historical Society and Parker deserve credit for at last making these original journals available in an excellent volume containing much new information. This reviewer hopes they stimulate new interest in and additional studies of this frontier and its inhabitants in those interesting years.

*Reviewed by* OLIVER W. HOLMES, former chief archivist of the National Resources Records Branch of the National Archives and also former executive director of the National Historical Publications Commission. He is now retired and living in Washington, D.C.

*The Education of a Public Man: My Life and Politics.* By Hubert H. Humphrey. Edited by Norman Sherman. (New York, Doubleday, 1976. 513 p. Illustrations. \$12.50.)

HUBERT HORATIO HUMPHREY has dominated Minnesota politics since World War II. In fact, because he was architect of major party dominance in the state, creator and advocate of post-New Deal policies, United States senator, vice-president, and perennial presidential candidate, the years since 1945 can truly be called the Humphrey years in Minnesota politics. Humphrey's entry upon the national political scene coincided with the raging of the Cold War, and, ironically, even though he achieved national prominence as a champion of human and civil rights, he came to power in Minnesota by outflanking his "left-wing," "popular front" opponents within the Democratic-Farmer-Labor party prior to their involuntary withdrawal into the Henry Wallace Progressive party in 1948. Thus he and his followers were known as "right-wingers" in Minnesota but as "bomb-throwing left-wingers" within the national Democratic party and within the United States Senate.

Humphrey's memoirs focus on his Senate years, his tormented vice-presidency, and his narrow defeat during the traumatic year of 1968 when a few more days of campaigning might have reversed the political verdict. Most readers of this honest, forthright, and interesting book will concentrate especially upon its coverage of the critical years of the vice-presidency and the author's relationship to President Lyndon B. Johnson and the issue of United States involvement in Viet Nam. They will not be disappointed in reading of Humphrey's moves from premature "dove" to postmature "hawk" and his efforts at extricating himself from this political "no win" stance in the face of massive hostility from the White House and the military, particularly after it became clear that his natural constituency — liberals, students, intellectuals — had deserted him and the Viet Nam adventure. That this maneuver was attempted during the heat of a presidential campaign against a cunning and unscrupulous opponent only made the effort seem suspect in the eyes of many observers. That the effort was sincere can be seen in the pages of this book and particularly in the lessons of Viet Nam which appear as a summary of America's major postwar blunder.

For the student of Minnesota politics and history, the first third of the book will prove invaluable. With candor and dramatic impact, the author tells of growing up in South Dakota, his formative years at the University of Minnesota, and the early years of depression and post-depression political strife leading to the merger of the Democratic and Farmer-Labor parties. This section of the book constitutes a major source for the historian seeking to reconstruct this critical period of Minnesota history. It is not a definitive account, since it is based almost entirely on the author's memory reinforced by examination of the Humphrey papers at the Minnesota Historical Society by research assistant Norman Sherman. Yet it cannot be ignored, for it reflects the motivations, strategies, and sympathies of one of the major architects of post-World War II politics and history in Minnesota.

It is perhaps too soon to make a definitive assessment of

Humphrey's role in American politics and history, since his career is still an active one, yet on the basis of this book it is perhaps fair to make a preliminary judgment. To this reviewer Hubert H. Humphrey is the Henry Clay of the twentieth century. Like Clay, Humphrey never realized his highest ambition (being elected president); yet, like Clay, he dominated thirty years of the politics of this century. Like Clay, too, Humphrey has been a creative legislator responsible for some of the most innovative legislation of his age. Finally, like Clay, Humphrey has been an astute compromiser, being more concerned with political results than in obstinate ideology. Long after many of his contemporary presidents have been forgotten, Clay is remembered. The same may be true for Hubert H. Humphrey.

*Reviewed by* HYMAN BERMAN, *professor of history at the University of Minnesota. He specializes in labor and political history.*

*Uncle Sam's Farmers: The New Deal Communities in the Lower Mississippi Valley.* By Donald Holley.

(Urbana, University of Illinois Press, 1975. xv, 312 p. \$14.50.)

WHILE SEVERAL historians have dealt with the New Deal programs designed to rehabilitate the nation's poorest farmers, none has presented a clearer picture of those efforts than the study under review. It covers Region VI of the Resettlement Administration which included the states of Arkansas, Louisiana, and Mississippi. Within that geographic area, Holley discusses the various federal programs developed to assist helpless sharecroppers and tenants to escape from poverty and to achieve some level of economic independence.

In order to present a clear picture of the different government approaches to dealing with the rural poor, the author uses a case study method. He discusses projects in which the federal government provided capital to buy land, to construct houses, and to make loans to farmers for operation and capital needs. These farmers were expected to function under agency direction and eventually to become owners of the land they tilled. Dyess Colony in Arkansas was an example of this type of enterprise.

There were also industrial-type subsistence homesteads where farmers were provided a small plot of land on which they could raise food, but cash income had to be derived from off-farm work. The McComb project in Mississippi was typical of the industrial-type subsistence homesteads. Finally, there were a few projects such as Terrebonne, Louisiana, where government planners hoped to operate the entire colony as a co-operative enterprise without seeking to achieve individual land ownership.

Throughout the study, Holley deals with program administrators, the people the projects were designed to serve, the growing opposition to such planning, and why the schemes failed. He makes it clear that even the Resettlement Administration did not try to meet the needs of the poorest and most

deprived farmers. Those selected for the projects were chosen with an eye on who might best succeed.

Holley has brought an added dimension to our understanding of the New Deal's resettlement program. He has written a regional study of national importance. His research is extensive and thorough in both primary and secondary sources. This book is a valuable addition to New Deal and agricultural history. It is also important for what it shows about the difficulties government programs face as they seek to help the very poor.

*Reviewed by* GILBERT C. FITE, noted agricultural historian who is now Richard B. Russell Professor of History at the University of Georgia, Athens. He formerly was president of Eastern Illinois University at Charleston.

***Lindbergh: A Biography.* By Leonard Mosley.**

(Garden City, New York, Doubleday, 1976. xxx, 446 p. Illustrations. \$12.95.)

AN ACCURATE and definitive biography of Charles A. Lindbergh, still considered America's greatest twentieth-century hero, is yet to be written. There have been three serious attempts in the last three decades, but all have depended for the most part on already published materials containing many factual errors and invented anecdotes. Reconciling the complex qualities that led Lindbergh to both triumph and disfavor is a difficult assignment for any biographer, and without the co-operation of the Lindbergh family, or their close associates, any attempt is bound to be flawed both in its facts and its interpretations. In addition to these flaws, Mosley's book also contains many careless errors. Hormel Packing Company becomes "Hormill"; Bruce Larson's biography of C. A. Lindbergh, Sr., is mistakenly said to have been published in 1971 instead of 1973; and a *New York Times* article by Lindbergh on the Supersonic Transport (SST) is dated 1942 rather than 1972. Pointing out these small errors may open one to a charge of being "literal-minded and didactic," as Mosley characterizes Lindbergh, but such mistakes do alert those familiar with the Lindbergh story to read this volume with some caution.

Perhaps the most remarkable statement in this new biography is Mosley's sweeping indictment that "much of the credit for Munich" must go to Charles A. Lindbergh. The author's discussion of the prewar years — particularly of Lindbergh's residence in England from 1935 to 1938 — does add some new insights to the Lindbergh story. Mosley's access to the diaries and letters of Harold Nicholson, British essayist and a personal friend of the Lindberghs, gives this part of his book an immediacy and interest that the rest lacks. Lindbergh's role in the delicate pre-Munich power struggle in Europe will no doubt be a subject of controversy for years to come. Whether or not one agrees with Mosley's assessment of Lindbergh's impact on the thinking of British and French leaders, there is no doubt that aviation's greatest hero was probably led by the Nazis into an overestimation of Germany's air power, and that he was sufficiently important and well known to make his opinion count. However, the new materials found in these few pages

hardly justify the publication of a full-length biography. A long article might have served better to explore the original materials Mosley brings to light.

Otherwise, Mosley chronicles the familiar story of the daring young aviator who flew nonstop from New York to Paris and took the world by storm; the tragic young father victimized and embittered by the sensationalized press treatment of his personal tragedy; the "America First" speaker who defied the power of the Roosevelt administration in urging nonintervention in World War II; and finally the crusader for conservation who understood sooner than most what man was doing to the delicate balance of nature that had produced him. These are the familiar pictures of Lindbergh, and all, whether drawn by admirers or detractors, seem to leave the central character in shadow. Like that earlier hero, T. E. Lawrence, Lindbergh seems to elude biographers. Perhaps soon an authorized book, drawing on Lindbergh's letters and papers at Yale University, will help explain this difficult subject. But for now, the best way to know Lindbergh is to read Lindbergh's own books and articles and those of his wife, Anne.

*Reviewed by* NANCY EUBANK, interpretation supervisor in the society's field services, historic sites, and archaeology division. Ms. Eubank has researched this subject extensively in connection with the Lindbergh Interpretive Center at Little Falls.

***Years of Struggle: The Farm Diary of Elmer G. Powers, 1931–1936.* Edited by H. Roger Grant and L. Edward Purcell.**

(Ames, Iowa State University Press, 1976. xix, 158 p. Illustrations. \$6.95.)

THOSE WHO WISH to understand present-day farm life and problems can gain many insights from reading this diary of a typical Iowa farmer who died in 1942 at the age of fifty-six. The editors have centered on the 1931–36 period of the diary, and the picture that emerges is a vivid one of the difficult depression years and of some people who endured them.

From his deep love of the land and abiding faith in it, Powers produced notes on events and politics that constitute an important document of rural life on 180 acres of rich corn land in central Iowa (Boone County). Part of the importance comes from the fact that rural diaries of this type are not very common.

Members of the Powers family and others like them were fiercely proud and conservative. They believed in hard work, self-sufficiency, and "making a go" of their farming and were suspicious of city folk. It was only after their backs were to the wall financially that they were willing, however reluctantly, to consider governmental help. Powers, a Republican, managed to accept New Deal farm programs but was uneasy with them.

Powers understood the importance of agriculture as an industry and how mercilessly it was exposed to the exigencies of weather, political climate, and economic fluctuations. He knew firsthand that a beautiful crop could be eliminated by drought or hail. In some of the diary's most poignant passages, Powers watches helplessly as the sun burns up his corn during the

searing, drought-stricken summer of 1936. Even if a crop was produced, the farmer had to be content with what the government paid or a dealer offered. In turn he had to ask the merchant what price he wanted for his merchandise. The frustration of the daily record as written by Powers dramatically presents these problems.

During the last twenty-five years approximately 50 per cent of those engaged in farming have been eliminated and in many cases have moved from small town areas to bigger cities to seek employment. If they find it, city dwellers who might have found jobs go without them. A good share of the crime problem derives from unemployment in our bigger cities, which in turn results to a large degree from the displacement of farmers. For farmers to continue to operate on the basis of an approximate 70 per cent of parity is a major cause of our economic and social problems.

The diary of Elmer G. Powers persuasively and eloquently presents the deep frustration of a hard-working family to meet unequal economic and political situations.

*Reviewed by* JOHN H. BOSCH, now of Minneapolis and formerly an officer of the Farmers' Holiday Association. His recollections of this radical protest movement in the early 1930s were published in the Winter, 1975, issue of Minnesota History.

***Sister Kenny: The Woman Who Challenged the Doctors.* By Victor Cohn.**

(Minneapolis, University of Minnesota Press, 1976. 302 p. Illustrations. \$16.50.)

VICTOR COHN'S biography of Sister Elizabeth Kenny offers a comprehensive account of this remarkable woman's life to a diverse reading audience. The book will undoubtedly generate different emotions in different readers, and for a variety of reasons, but to the person who claims no parochial interest in the meaning or the style of Sister Kenny's life, it can be simply an engaging narrative. The book deals in an easy manner with her humble origins in Australia and her later colorful career in America.

Her personality, her creed, and the controversy she generated with the medical profession over her unorthodox techniques for combating the crippling effects of poliomyelitis are all presented accurately and fairly. Tribulations, accomplishments, and triumphs are documented and placed in perspective. The positions of her adversaries are acknowledged and, when appropriate, given credence.

*Sister Kenny* demonstrates the dilemma of reconciling the innovators and the establishment, the "wingers" and the inflexibles, the Kennys and the Ghormleys. (Ralph K. Ghormley, orthopedic surgeon at the Mayo Clinic for many years, was one of Sister Kenny's staunchest opponents.) The book equitably demonstrates the need for both camps.

For those readers who wish to use the nurse's life as a *cause célèbre*, this book will serve the purpose. Some will find in the biography of Sister Kenny a threat to their domain, as did many whose paths she crossed. Many saw in her and her methods a threat to medical objectivism, and many, correctly so, still do.

With its full coverage of Sister Kenny's work in Minneapolis in the 1940s, and in other ways, the book substantiates Minnesota's claim to the nurse as a historical figure and gives credit to the native sons who recognize her abilities and paved the way for her recognition. In some readers the book will stir memories of the principals involved and the events they were to make happen; in others it will undoubtedly evoke recollections of the polio epidemics and the hopes that were generated by the mere mention of the Sister Kenny treatment.

*Sister Kenny* can appropriately be recommended to students entering, and those practicing, the healing arts. Stripped of polemics, the life of Sister Kenny is a simple statement of principles. Her powers of observation, her selflessness, and her dedication epitomize the art. The book is a genuine pleasure to read and probably was a pleasure to the author to write. Its historical relevance to this area is a bonus.

*Reviewed by* ROBERT A. WENGLER, an orthopedic surgeon in Minneapolis.

***Conquering the Great American Desert.* By Everett Dick.**

(Lincoln, Nebraska State Historical Society, 1975. xiii, 456 p. Maps, illustrations. \$10.95.)

THIS VOLUME is a history of agriculture in Nebraska, written as a bicentennial reminder of the "story of a sweep of population across the continent from its narrow fringe along the Atlantic seaboard." Following a review of the Great American Desert theory that the prairies east of the Rockies were not inhabitable, there are chapters describing most of the experiences of farmers and stockgrowers who developed the natural resources of the Cornhusker State after the middle of the nineteenth century.

Some chapters treat the construction of dugouts and sod houses, the planting of trees, the search for fuel and fencing materials, and the production of sweets (mainly sorghum and sugar beets). Others explain the importance of railroads and reveal the problems caused by drought, grasshoppers, prairie fires, and storms. Final chapters describe livestock industries, identify various types of machines that were introduced to make agriculture more efficient, and show how farmers managed the soil west of the 100th meridian through the use of Hardy W. Campbell's dry-farming procedures and modern irrigation techniques.

Although this book deals with subjects that have been discussed in earlier publications by Professor Dick, Walter P. Webb, W. Eugene Hollon, Gilbert C. Fite, and Hiram M. Drache, it is nevertheless a contribution to literature on agricultural history. Copious documentation from government files, personal manuscript collections, printed sources, and oral history underscores the wealth of knowledge that Dick has acquired about his topic. Numerous detailed descriptions and anecdotes bring the story to life. By a considerable margin, this is the most complete publication to appear about the history of agriculture on the central prairies and Great Plains during the period between the Civil War and World War I.



This reviewer is somewhat disappointed over a paucity of information about Nebraska's history during the past half-century. The author includes brief discussions of such subjects as water development, tree culture, and the production of sweets during recent years. However, he all but ignores agricultural mechanization through the introduction of the V-belt, diesel-powered implements, hydraulic machinery, and electricity, as well as other significant changes that have occurred in the twentieth century. A chapter on recent trends would have made the story complete.

Despite this deficiency, this product of a lifetime of research will benefit professional historians, students, and buffs alike. Readers with agrarian roots will appreciate how thoroughly it portrays the personal hardships that farmers faced during the evolution of western agriculture.

*Reviewed by* HERBERT T. HOOVER, *professor of history at the University of South Dakota and a specialist in frontier and American Indian history.*

***The Scandinavian Presence in North America.* Edited by Erik J. Friis.**

(New York, Harper's Magazine Press, 1976. xxi, 266 p. \$10.00.)

IN MAY, 1973, a conference on the Scandinavian presence in the United States was sponsored in Minneapolis by the University of Minnesota Center for Northwest European Studies and by Scandinavian Airlines. This "Scanpresence" seminar, as it came to be called, was important because it brought together about 100 persons, including people from Scandinavian countries, active in the research, study, and promotion of Scandinavian culture in America. This book is the meeting's written record. The intention was not to produce a history of Scandinavian-Americans, but rather to assess the importance and extent of ethnic awareness today: how much is left, and what the prospects are for the future in an age of "international homogenization."

The seminar was organized around specific topics. The concept of ethnicity in general was defined. In discussion with Franklin D. Scott and others, ethnic history scholar Joshua Fishman, author of *Language Loyalty in the United States*, placed the Scandinavians in current perspective. Subsequent discussions ranged from the church and ethnicity to the immigrant newspaper and to the transplanted culture as seen from the mother countries — the last including participants from official information offices and Scandinavian universities. An appendix lists participants and their institutional affiliations.

A distinction emerged at the seminar between ethnic heritage and ethnic interest, often unrelated to a person's national origin and spurred by professional, social, or political connections. To people with a detached interest, a publication like this volume, based on an all-Scandinavian perspective, is especially welcome. If the Norwegians, Swedes, Danes, and Finns are going to speak to people beyond their ethnic communities, it is wise to do so together (an attitude long held by the American Scandinavian Foundation). The value of this book lies in its

comprehensive character, in bringing together presentations from many fields of Scandinavian studies and activities, academic and nonacademic, and in adding topics which have not been prominently treated before, such as "Scandinavian in the High Schools" and criminal justice studies. The result is engaging and reflects much of the personal enthusiasm the participants expressed over the opportunity to come together and discuss issues they felt strongly about.

Throughout the discussions, suggestions were made for stimulation of further interest in Scandinavian culture. For example, one proposal was for a selective program to translate and reprint older immigrant newspapers into one all-Scandinavian publication in English or possibly English and another language. The emphasis would be both on current issues in Scandinavian countries and on the ethnic heritage in the United States.

If the book falls somewhat short as a guide to further study it is because of the inherent weakness in producing a volume from panel discussions and seminar papers, most of which were not intended as presentations of research results but rather as general accounts of developments to the present. For the benefit of those who did not take part in the seminar, it would have been useful to include bibliographic references to books and periodicals and a chapter on existing archives, libraries, and information offices, which are mentioned only in passing.

Much activity along the lines suggested in this book has already taken place during the Norwegian sesquicentennial in 1975 and the American bicentennial. A follow-up "Scanpresence" seminar is scheduled for the spring of 1977 in Minneapolis. A question lingers in this reviewer's mind: Is the time ripe for the all-Scandinavian comparative approach or is such an approach an artificial merger of still largely nationally oriented language and heritage interests?

*Reviewed by* MARIANN TIBLIN, *Scandinavian bibliographer at the University of Minnesota's Wilson Library.*

***American Farm Policy, 1948–1973.* By Willard W. Cochrane and Mary E. Ryan.**

(Minneapolis, University of Minnesota Press, 1976. xiv, 431 p. \$18.50.)

BASED MAINLY on studies made by the United States Department of Agriculture, this excellent book is basically a reference work on American farm policy between 1948 and 1973. Divided into three sections, the book covers the agricultural situation and the historical record and appraises the consequences of past programs for the future of American agriculture. Many tables and graphs provide statistical and visual information about all phases of agricultural conditions and programs.

As is generally known, except among some revisionist historians, the principal problem of American agriculture for the past century has been the disposal of agricultural surpluses. A number of solutions have been tried: low prices, plowing crops under, dumping crops abroad at bargain prices, and gifts under

various guises. The usual solution, however, has been to restrict production by limiting acreage of the crop in surplus.

Acreage limitation under fancy names, such as "soil banks," has not always led to a reduction in the surplus, for, as the authors point out, farmers have simply withdrawn their poorer acres from production and increased the yield from the better ones. The authors' solution for the surplus problem is crop quotas. Whatever the attempted cure, it has to be politically acceptable, because no responsive government can take steps that will threaten the "family farm."

Limitation of acreage has led to intensive agriculture of a unique kind. One usually thinks of intensive agriculture in terms of the intensive use of labor, but in America it has been capital-intensive. Using scientific discoveries, American agriculture has become dependent upon a vast array of petroleum products: gasoline or kerosene for trucks, tractors, automobiles, dryers, and other equipment. Then there are the other items coming from petroleum, such as fertilizers, herbicides, insecticides, and additives to livestock feeds. The dependence of American agriculture upon cheap, easily available petroleum is frightening to this reviewer. A disturbance to petroleum supplies for the American farmer could have devastating effects on a world scale.

*Reviewed by* RODNEY C. LOEHR, *retired professor of history at the University of Minnesota. He is the author of many articles and books on the history of agriculture and other subjects.*

***The Finnish Experience in the Western Great Lakes Region: New Perspectives.*** Edited by Michael G. Karni, Matti E. Kaups, Douglas J. Ollila, Jr.

(Turku, Finland, Institute for Migration, and St. Paul, Immigration History Research Center, 1975. ix, 232 p. Illustrations. Paper \$6.50.)

THE THEMATIC quality of an edited collection of research papers can be measured by its unity and continuity of purpose. In this study, continuity of theme is found in the reasons for emigration, the adjustments made by the various groups of Finns to the American experience, and, in a few significant cases, the abandonment of the enterprise to return to the native land or another country.

In the first step in this cycle, the focus is devoted to what has been described here and elsewhere as the "push" and "pull" dynamics of emigration. Conditions which promote emigration fall under "push," whereas its more positive counterpart, "pull," consists of factors which draw emigrants to the destination country. In late nineteenth-century Finland, conditions promoting emigration were population increases, unemployment and related economic consequences, rural-urban migration, and social class discrimination and alienation. In the years immediately following this period of upheaval — approximately 1870–90 — Czarist Russia exerted additional pressure

over the Grand Duchy of Finland by enforcing military conscription and suppressing political expression.

The "pull" factors influencing Finnish emigration were similar to those experienced by other nationality groups — the desire to seek something better out of life and the "America fever" which lured millions to a hoped-for utopia. For better or for worse, company recruiters, steamship company inducements in the native land, and the "America letters" to relatives and friends back home in Finland all helped foster the vision of a new life.

The "New Perspectives" of the book's title is an attempt to overcome some of the prejudice of traditional immigration history by methodically illustrating the full cycle of Finnish emigration, particularly the adjustments made by the Finns to often-hostile conditions in their new home. Much of the new ground broken by research in this volume raises sensitive emotions within the various Finnish-American groups. The central thrust of this objective scholarship has been to take up topics which, in the past, led to divisiveness: the causes of emigration, religious schism, the pathfinding contribution to the consumer co-operative movement in the United States, the role played by Finnish-Americans in industrial unionism, and the Finnish-American relationship to the socialist and communist movements.

These informative accounts are a considerable contribution and should serve to spur scholars to pursue a study that is far from completed. Documentation in the volume is excellent, much of it resting on contemporary newspapers and periodicals. Survey research is fully utilized, in most cases to good effect. Many helpful charts, maps, and illustrations are included.

Individuals not concerned with the scholarly aspects of this work, particularly Finnish-Americans who share the rich heritage of the Finnish immigrants, will also find much of interest. The diversity of topics researched is wide-ranging, and it is hoped that one can look forward to further research in the various subjects undertaken.

*Reviewed by* TUULIKKI JAAKOLA SINKS, *teaching specialist in the Department of Scandinavian at the University of Minnesota.*

***Guide to the Orin G. Libby Manuscript Collection and Related Research Collections at the University of North Dakota, Grand Forks.*** Compiled by John B. Davenport.

(Grand Forks, University of North Dakota, 1975. 143 p. \$3.00.)

ALTHOUGH THE Libby collection of historical manuscripts receives top billing, this is actually a consolidated guide to all historical research collections available, in original or copy, in the University of North Dakota's Chester Fritz Library. Separate sections cover (1) the Orin G. Libby Manuscript Collection, containing both historical and contemporary papers and

records pertaining to the history of North Dakota and the northern Great Plains; (2) the University of North Dakota Archives, including university publications, records of university departments and organizations, and miscellaneous information files; (3) a summary description of the Fred G. Aandahl collection of books on North Dakota, western, and agricultural history; (4) microform collections in the Chester Fritz Library, primarily of manuscript collections in other repositories, of publication series, and of records in the National Archives; (5) newspapers available in the library, in both hard copy and microform; and (6) newspapers available on microfilm through interlibrary loan from the State Historical Society of North Dakota.

The decision to expand the guide beyond its original purpose, a description of the Libby collection, was well taken, for the holdings of the University of North Dakota Library as a whole constitute a significant regional resource, whose components can profitably be used in conjunction with each other. The guide provides an overview rather than a detailed analysis of the materials included in these collections. In a concise and workmanlike manner, it summarizes each of the nearly 300 groups of papers comprising the Libby collection, identifying their creator and briefly noting their content. The individual manuscript collections range in size and quality from single articles and reminiscences to the often voluminous papers of contemporary organizations and public figures. They are heavily concentrated in the areas of politics and public affairs, education, family history, local business, and the University of North Dakota.

They include some copies from other repositories, county and local governmental records, oral history interviews, and photograph collections. Guide entries include unprocessed as

well as processed collections, a genuine service in view of the nation-wide paucity of information on uncataloged manuscript materials. Also appreciated is the decision to provide the user with a ready grasp of the size of each collection by measuring it simply in either items or linear feet, elaborating when necessary in the text of the entry. Clarification of the existence and number of volumes would have been useful in many instances, however.

The microform collections are described in the same manner. Holdings of the university archives, which are largely unprocessed, are summarized as lists, which give only series or publication title, date span, and quantity. Newspapers are listed by place of publication, with title and date span.

The brevity of description for the individual manuscript collections is the guide's major shortcoming. A more detailed analysis of their subject content would have enhanced considerably its usefulness for researchers unfamiliar with the collections or with North Dakota history. It would also have benefited visually from a variation in type style or size and spacing between collection titles and descriptions. The guide lacks an index, not a major hurdle given its size and summary nature, but certainly required if a future edition gives the collections the content analysis their scope and significance deserve.

Despite those observations, the guide is a valuable research tool, attractive, with a good format, easy to use, and concentrated on the basic information any reader needs in order to comprehend and utilize the full range of resources available in the university's historical collections.

*Reviewed by* LYDIA LUCAS, head of technical services in the division of archives and manuscripts, Minnesota Historical Society.

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## news & notes

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SPECIAL RECOGNITION has been given two individuals and three organizations in Minnesota by the national awards committee of the American Association for State and Local History. The committee met on September 18-19 prior to the AASLH 1976 annual meeting in Albany, New York. Brooks Cavin, St. Paul architect, was voted an award of merit "for his considerable efforts and achievements in historic preservation in Minnesota." Helen M. White of Taylors Falls, former MHS staff member who publishes *The Dalles Visitor*, was voted a

certificate of commendation "for her excellent newspaper that illuminates many facets of local history in Minnesota."

Also voted certificates of commendation were the Edina Historical Society "for its educational program that shows children what school was like seventy-five years ago," the Minnesota Transportation Museum, Inc., "for its streetcar line project [in *Minneapolis*] that gives Minnesotans a living picture of transportation as it used to be," and WCCO Radio "for contributions to local and regional history through numerous well-

produced programs, notably "Northwest Chronicles," during the bicentennial year."

A former Minnesotan, St. Paul-born Karl J. R. Arndt, was given an award of merit "for his contribution to the history of the Harmony Society's communities at Harmony and Economy, Pennsylvania, and New Harmony, Indiana." Arndt is professor of German at Clark University, Worcester, Massachusetts.

A SIGNIFICANT aid to the study of Black people in the state is *Blacks in*



*Minnesota: A Preliminary Guide to Historical Sources*, a thirty-three-page booklet compiled by David V. Taylor and published by the Minnesota Historical Society (\$1.75). The bibliography covers events and people dating from the fur trade days of George Bonga and the Dred Scott controversy of the 1850s to the social and political scene of the 1970s. Included are books, articles, pamphlets, theses, newspapers, photographs, oral interviews, and unpublished manuscript materials held by the society and by area college libraries.

The indexed guide is divided into sections on such subjects as history, government and politics, business and economics, race relations, social welfare, education, religion, organizations, printing and publishing, and the arts. The publication is the result of a special Minnesota Black History Project, directed by Taylor during the summers of 1974 and 1975.

BECAUSE SOURCE material for women's history is often buried in diverse and sometimes unlikely collections, the appearance of the *Bibliography of Sources Relating to Women* is welcome. Published by the Michigan History Division of the Michigan Department of State, the work was compiled by state archivist David J. Olson. It includes sources from seven collections: Clarke History Library, Central Michigan University; Burton Historical Collection, Detroit Public Library; State Archives, Michigan History Division; Archives of Labor History and Urban Affairs, Wayne State University; University Archives, also at Wayne State; and Michigan Historical Collections, University of Michigan.

The thirty-page bibliography does not "presume to list all unpublished collections pertaining to women" in Michigan, says Olson in the introduction. Selections are not limited to sources specifically regarding women's causes, either. There is a welcome diversity that includes family correspondence and diaries; letters of housewives, early settlers (some anonymous), teachers, farmers, and nurses; papers of women prominent in public life; and organizational and governmental collections that include temperance unions, literary and educational associations, girls' reform schools, labor unions, and physical education groups, to name just a few.

VARIOUS ASPECTS of life in and around Fort Snelling during the years it was the upper Mississippi's frontier out-

post are provided in some recent MHS publications.

Illustrations of the uniforms worn at the fort are available in four-color prints, approximately nine inches by twelve inches, suitable for framing. They were drawn by Donna Nearing and hand-colored by Paul Waller. There are two sets of three drawings of dress and fatigue uniforms for summer and winter and for men of different ranks. A brief description of the clothing is provided. The cost is \$1.50 for each set of three prints.

Two additional *Historic Fort Snelling Chronicles* have been published. "The Tonic of Wildness: The Golden Age of the 'Fashionable Tour' on the Upper Mississippi," by Marx Swanholt and Susan Zeik, describes the surprisingly elegant and colorful early tourist industry in the area. It covers the popular steamboat tours of the 1830s through the 1850s which became quite lavish, with sumptuous food, lodging, and entertainment. Many of the authors' details came from an account by a prolific writer, Mrs. Elizabeth Ellet, who made the tour in 1852.

A second *Chronicle*, "The Buried History of the Sutler's Store," by Liza Nagle and Marx Swanholt, tells how archaeological finds helped reconstruct the store at Fort Snelling as well as the soldiers' lives. The men congregated in the store in their leisure time, and archaeologists found fragments of drinking glasses, bottles, clay pipes, buttons, and other items that helped provide information about life at the fort.

Earlier *Chronicles*, still available, are "Army Uniforms at Fort Snelling, 1821-1832," by John Grossman, and "Dred Scott: From Fort Snelling to Freedom," by Jeffrey A. Hess. Each *Chronicle* is 50 cents.

THE SIBLEY COUNTY Historical Society has published *The Henderson To Fort Ridgely Trail, May 1976*, by Ahle Reddemann. The booklet of seventy-five pages traces in some detail the route over which shipments were made by wagon during the 1850s and 1860s from Henderson through Sibley and Renville counties to Fort Ridgely. The booklet gives some of the history of the towns and rural areas along the trail, including the beginnings of early churches, school districts, and businesses. In addition to noting the ethnic makeup of some of the early settlements, the booklet treats such subjects as construction and functioning of early farm machinery in the area and discusses in passing some family his-

tories. No documentation is given, but much of the information came from interviews with early settlers and farm families now living along the trail route. Copies are available for \$2.00 from Mrs. Mae Lieske, Henderson, Minnesota 56044.

DEBORAH STULTZ

SCARECROW PRESS has published several volumes of its *Index to Book Reviews in Historical Periodicals*, by John W. Brewster and Joseph A. McLeod. The 1973 and 1974 volumes have been published, and the 1972 and 1975 volumes are scheduled to come out soon.

The books provide an index to historical book reviews published in approximately 100 of the better-known scholarly publications and historical society journals, including *Minnesota History*. The main index is an alphabetical author-listing of the books included for which reviews have been located, with title and publication information and review citation. Included are the name of the reviewer and the periodical and issue in which the review appeared. A separate title index refers back to the main entries. Each volume lists about 5,000 book titles, most of which are current publications.

The books are available from Scarecrow Press, Inc., P.O. Box 656, Metuchen, New Jersey 08840. Prices of volumes range from \$12.50 to \$17.50.

THE OHIO Historical Society has published a booklet on *Women in Ohio History*, edited by Marta Whitlock (Columbus, 1976, 38 p.) The work, which was published for the state's Bicentennial Commission, consists of six papers given at a conference on the various roles women have played in Ohio history. The conference itself was the second in a bicentennial series designed to emphasize aspects of Ohio's development that have been largely neglected by historians. It was hosted by the Archives-Library Division of the Ohio Historical Society in May, 1975.

Among the topics covered are the first women's rights convention in Ohio; "Employment of Married Women in Ohio, 1920-1940"; women's role in the public schools of northeastern Ohio; and three biographical studies, including Lucy Webb Hayes in her role as a governor's wife, reformer and suffragist Pauline Steinem, and Geraldine Roberts, who founded the domestic Workers of America. All of the papers are annotated.



**S**ince 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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