

ism is replaced by that of corporate capitalism. During this period of internal conflict within capitalism, part of the population looked backward to a marketplace of small producers and to Jacksonian democracy, and others looked forward to large-scale production and to "Progressive" democracy. But there were those within Populism who had a vision of a co-operative commonwealth as an alternative to either kind of capitalism. Using midwestern materials, but focusing on those from Minnesota, Youngdale has developed a very sophisticated model of overlapping paradigms (cultural perspectives) to explain the unstable ideology of so many

Populists. Populism, for Youngdale, contained aspects of Jacksonian and Progressive democracy as well as its central co-operative vision. An individual Populist could move quickly and unpredictably from one viewpoint to another. By 1915, the options of 1895 were largely foreclosed, however, as Progressivism and corporate capitalism became the dominant cultural paradigm.

Happily, then, it is no longer true that local historians are ignoring conflict, and we seem to be moving into a period of deep concern with conflict theory which can link local and national history in illuminating and productive ways.

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## Book Reviews

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*Autobiography of Values.* By Charles A. Lindbergh.  
 Edited by William Jovanovich and Judith A. Schiff.  
 (New York, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1978. Illustrations. xxii, 423 p. \$12.95.)

THIS BOOK, published four years after Charles A. Lindbergh's death, is a "summing up" of his provocative views on the mystery and quality of life. It is informed by the man's perspective forged from fifty years of flying around the globe and travel and observation in all parts of the world. Lindbergh begins: "The age of seventy gives one a vantage point from which to look back on the values of a lifetime. . . . I find myself at a vantage point in human evolution as well as my personal life. Born at the beginning of the exponentially advancing twentieth century A.D., I have experienced more change in the environment of man than took place during all previous centuries since civilization began — as though the impact of thousands of years had been upon a single individual."

Lindbergh recounts his extraordinary career as farmer, aviator, inventor, advocate of rocketry, pioneer in laying out commercial air routes, opponent of American entry into World War II, and champion of wildlife conservation. His preoccupation with the evolution of human life permeates most pages. How does he fit into the endless stream of life? As an individual, according to Lindbergh, one is defined by and gathers meaning through family, race, country, locality, and travel. Much of the autobiographical turf has been covered in *The Spirit of St. Louis* and *The Wartime Journals* — his boyhood in Minnesota, visits to Washington, D.C., with his congressman father, the magic world of science first experienced in his Grandfather Land's laboratory in Detroit, his attraction to aviation, barnstorming, flying airmail, the 1927 flight, mapping air routes, observing air power in Europe during the 1930s, his exile to Europe, breaking with Franklin Roosevelt, and opposi-

tion to the United States entry into World War II. However, new material of significance appears: His own account of his first son's kidnapping and murder, the inside story of the controversial German medal presented by Hermann Goering, discovery of the Tasaday tribe in the Philippines, and candid comments on luminaries his fame brought him into contact with, including Carl Jung, Henry Ford, Lady Astor, Alexis Carrel, Joseph P. Kennedy, John F. Kennedy, Ferdinand Marcos, and a host of others. He tells how William Randolph Hearst offered him a movie contract for \$500,000, which he declined. Fresh glimpses of life with his wife and children add interest and humor, including his precise set of specifications for a wife.

The major thrust of the book is Lindbergh's distillation of life's values. Five Lindberghian judgments and speculations stand out. First, sustaining a quality of life requires a sturdy heredity and a healthy natural environment. Problems are ahead as the natural environment is destroyed and modern medicine interrupts natural selection and introduces genetic defects. Second, the quality of life ultimately can only be measured by the quality of the natural environment and heredity. Third, human life is a paradox. "Here," writes Lindbergh, "one encounters again the juxtaposition of apparently opposed principles of nature — the importance and unimportance of the individual. He is the ultimate goal of life's evolution, yet his life is of such trivial value that it is snuffed out for the slightest cause. He is at once the ocean of mortality and a molecule within it. His presence is essential; his absence is unmissed." Fourth, human life's creations and technological achievements are most visible in urban civilization, but its deepest meanings are to be found in the sensate environment of the jungle. Man, to remain human, needs to renew contact with the "wisdom of wildness." Fifth, the adventures of the future lie beyond time and space in raising human consciousness about the mysteries of human life. "To venture beyond the fantastic accomplishments of this physically fantastic age, sensory perception must combine with the extrasensory, and I suspect the two will prove to be different faces of each other."

Many will take issue with Lindbergh that World War II

Books and other publications reviewed in *Minnesota History* may be ordered from the MHS Museum Shop and Bookstore, 690 Cedar Street, St. Paul 55101; or phone (612) 296-4694.

weakened Western civilization. This reviewer believes he underestimated the Nazi threat to Western Europe. Also, his apprehension about the contemporary direction of the United States will not elicit agreement in many quarters. But you know where he stands, and he states his positions with vigor, clarity, and honesty.

Lindbergh writes with precision, verve, and an engaging style. The editors have skillfully surmounted the problems inherent in a posthumous manuscript. A few repetitious sections could have been left out, and closer proof reading could have eliminated a few minor errors (St. Louis Historical Society, for example, should be Missouri Historical Society). For those seeking to enrich their understanding of Lindbergh, his remarkably varied contributions, and his impact on the twentieth century, this book is recommended as an indispensable source.

*Reviewed by* RUSSELL W. FRIDLEY, *director of the Minnesota Historical Society, longtime friend of Charles A. Lindbergh, and author of the introduction to Lindbergh's Boyhood on the Upper Mississippi: A Reminiscent Letter, published by the MHS in 1972.*

*Les Derniers Puritains, Pionniers d'Amérique: Lettres de Théodore Bost et Sophie Bonjour, 1851–1920.*  
Edited by Charles Marc Bost.  
(Paris, France, Hachette, 1977. 439 p. Illustrations. Paper.)

MANY LETTERS of early Minnesota pioneers contain only concrete details and tell us nothing about the writer's feelings or opinions. Others are so full of feelings and opinions that we cannot imagine that the people who wrote them actually lived in a world of objects. Seldom are the best qualities of both kinds of letters combined. When it happens the result makes fascinating reading.

Such is the case with *Les Derniers Puritains*. Consisting of letters written from Minnesota during the 1855–80 period by a French-speaking Swiss man named Theodore Bost and his wife Sophie Bonjour, the book was edited by Charles Marc Bost, a descendant of one of Theodore Bost's brothers. The letters tell a great deal about the thoughts and feelings of its authors, while also describing many details of their daily lives.

Bost came to North America in 1851 at the age of seventeen. Son of a middle-class Protestant minister, Bost spent several years teaching school in New England, then went on to Minnesota in May, 1855, after reading J. Wesley Bond's *Minnesota and Its Resources*. He soon obtained a job working for Captain William B. Dodd, a founder of the town of St. Peter and an early road builder. Bost's description of the following few months gives a unique view of Dodd and his road-building projects.

After working on the road for some time, Bost was fired when he asked for his wages. He returned to St. Paul, where he stayed until November, 1855, at which time, intending to farm, he bought a claim near Chanhassen.

Subsequent letters describe Bost's establishment of the farm and his mail-order marriage with Sophie Bonjour, a Swiss woman he had known only briefly as a child but who his parents thought was eminently suitable to be his wife. Despite the

pragmatic beginning of their relationship, the couple soon after their marriage (which took place the day after Sophie's arrival in St. Paul from Switzerland in 1858), were referring to each other by the nicknames "Soso" and "Dodo." They were to be married for the next sixty years.

In the later letters we learn of their life together on the farm, the birth of their children, their relations with their neighbors, and their opinions about local and national politics and economics during and after the Civil War. The final letters in the book were written from California, where the Bosts went to live in 1887.

While the letters are written in a good, grammatical French, they contain many American idioms and expressions for which, apparently, the Bosts could find no good French or Swiss alternatives. Scattered throughout the book are sketch maps drawn by Bost at various times to show the layout of his farm and its relationship to St. Paul, Lake Minnetonka, and the Minnesota and Mississippi rivers. All in all, the book is a fascinating, coherent collection and it is to be hoped that someday it will be published in an American edition.

*Reviewed by* BRUCE M. WHITE, *assistant editor of Minnesota History.*

*Caesars of the Wilderness: Médard Chouart, Sieur des Groseilliers and Pierre Esprit Radisson, 1618–1710.* By Grace Lee Nute.

(St. Paul, Minnesota Historical Society Press, Reprint edition, 1978. Illustrations. xxii, 386 p. Cloth \$12.50, Paper \$5.95.)

EXPLORATION is an epic theme in North American history and is among the continent's oldest enterprises. Mythology, legend, and history are crowded with men who pushed up unknown rivers, questioned Indians, drew maps, and exploited the resources. Little by little explorers in the pay of merchants and governments drew the map of North America. Not until the 1930s, when the Canadian government undertook aerial surveys of the Barren Lands, did explorers run out of vast, uncharted territories. And yet, three-and-a-half centuries after Henry Hudson was cast adrift in Hudson Bay, and Samuel de Champlain reached Lake Huron, desk-bound explorers read again the old journals and accounts and see the virgin continent through the eyes of discoverers. The reprinting of *Caesars of the Wilderness*, Grace Lee Nute's definitive work on Pierre Esprit Radisson and Médard Chouart, Sieur des Groseilliers, will reopen unfamiliar territory for a new generation of readers.

Radisson and Groseilliers had traveled to the lower Great Lakes with the Indians before reaching and wintering on Lake Superior in 1659–60. The two men — brothers-in-law — were then employed by the government of New France to find the fur grounds of the interior. They wintered with the Ojibways and questioned the Crees about the lands west and north of Lake Superior. It was at this time, Nute concludes, that "they realized that the great fur center of the North American continent lay west and northwest of Lake Superior, and that the easiest route thereto was not by the difficult canoe route through the Great Lakes but on shipboard to Hudson Bay and

thence by canoe up either of two rivers, the modern Hayes and the Albany, which empty into it."

Radisson and Groseilliers spent the rest of their lives carrying out the idea. It was knowledge that made them the object of international intrigues between the French and British crowns, rival Jesuit and Franciscan orders, New England and Montreal merchants for control of Hudson Bay and the watersheds draining into it.

Ill-treated by the corrupt government of New France, Radisson and Groseilliers eventually changed sides and offered their services to the English crown in 1665. They explored Hudson Bay in the years following 1668, and their reports led to the formation of the Hudson's Bay Company in 1670. Formation of the company set in motion an intense rivalry between the fur interests based on Hudson Bay and the merchants located on the St. Lawrence River and the Great Lakes. The fur war would continue until 1821 when the Hudson's Bay Company absorbed its last competitor, the North West Company, and thus confirmed the explorers' early realization that the Hudson Bay operations were superior to trade based on the Great Lakes.

Before she could marshal her facts, Nute had to ascertain the validity of some sources of information. For example, did Radisson actually accompany Groseilliers to the Great Lakes in 1656, as he described in his narrative? The authenticity of this account had troubled scholars for years. Nute assembled shreds of information about Radisson and built an unshakable argument that he did not make the trip. Instead, he wrote a recollection and resumé of what Groseilliers had told him. Nute concluded that Radisson fabricated the account for the purpose of impressing British officials with his knowledge of North America.

*Caesars of the Wilderness* does not detail the day-to-day privations of the explorers but follows instead the constant and complicated intrigues that surrounded the opening of North America. This intricate story is ably told in sprightly prose. The historic characters are individuals with recognizable personalities that distinguish one person from another. Nute described Groseilliers with a quote from a Jesuit who said he was "a man capable of anything, bold, hardy, stubborn in his undertakings," to which she adds: "Such a man was not twiddling his thumbs in Huronia during his sojourn in the interior."

After many years out of print, the book has been made available again to scholars and laymen. Although the text is chock full of details — more than most readers can absorb in one reading — it is the intricate relationship between the details that adds so much to the volume's value to scholars. *Caesars of the Wilderness* is an impressive book and a work of scholarly exploration in its own right.

*Reviewed by R. NEWELL SEARLE, assistant director of the Minnesota Humanities Commission and author of Saving Quetico-Superior: A Land Set Apart, published by the Minnesota Historical Society Press in 1977.*

***Deep'n as It Come: The 1927 Mississippi River Flood.***  
By Pete Daniel.

(New York, Oxford University Press, 1977. Illustrations.  
162 p. Cloth \$10.95, Paper \$5.95.)

THE STUDY OF HUMAN DISASTER provides one of the most effective means of analyzing the value structure and mythology of any segment of our society. Pete Daniel's remarkable descriptive narrative of the 1927 Mississippi River flood gives many deep insights into social customs, racial discrimination, federal-state-local government relations, and the economic structure of the Mississippi South prior to the Great Depression.

The book contains an abundance of illustrations providing a strong visual impact. This reinforces the descriptions of the great impact of a natural disaster which affected 16,000,000 acres of land and changed the lives of hundreds of thousands of people. The work documents the shortsighted "levees only" policy of the Mississippi River Commission and contains some rather humorous suggestions for coping with this gigantic engineering problem. Daniel is especially critical of Herbert Hoover's use of the disaster to gain political influence. But the major cover-up of the event consisted of the suppression of the Robert R. Morton Colored Advisory Commission's report on the discrimination, peonage, and health conditions of the Red Cross refugee camps. The report on the rehabilitation of over 400,000 Blacks was never published.

This short study is written primarily from direct quotes of the participants in the event. Daniel has done a clever job of putting these observations into a readable format. But because of his methodology, no one person, agency, or circumstance dominates the narrative. The author does not provide an interpretive framework. The book could be judiciously used by high school instructors and is recommended for the general reader who wishes to spend a couple of hours in leisure entertainment and reflection.

*Reviewed by* RAYMOND H. MERRITT, *associate professor, cultural and technological studies, University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee.*

***Senator Lenroot of Wisconsin: A Political Biography, 1900-1929.*** By Herbert F. Margulies.

(Columbia, University of Missouri Press, 1977. x, 432 p.  
\$21.00.)

***"Young Bob" La Follette: A Biography of Robert M. La Follette, Jr., 1895-1953.*** By Patrick J. Maney.

(Columbia, University of Missouri Press, 1978. 338 p.  
\$18.00.)

THE DUST JACKET of Patrick Maney's "Young Bob" La Follette bears a sketch of Robert La Follette, Sr., peering over the right shoulder of his son. The picture captures the theme common to these biographies. Both are well written and well researched. Both are excellent additions to the political history of Wisconsin. And in both, the presence of "Old Bob" La Follette, whether alive or dead, is a vital force influencing the political careers of his son and of Senator Irvine Lenroot.

The son of Swedish immigrants, Lenroot was born in Superior in 1869. Politically ambitious, he was elected assemblyman the year La Follette became governor. Lenroot rapidly became La Follette's protégé. For twelve years La Follette and Lenroot were intimate associates. Lenroot, like La Follette,



labeled political issues as either black or white. After his election to Congress in 1908, he played an active role in the struggle to restrict Speaker Joseph Cannon's powers. His progressivism was in full flower, and he adopted the morally righteous rhetoric so common to reformers.

Nevertheless, Lenroot's temperament and background prevented him from playing the intransigent role relished by his political mentor. Consequently, during the period from 1912 to 1918 the relationship between the two slowly and painfully deteriorated. While loyal to La Follette's candidacy for the 1912 Republican presidential nomination, Lenroot wanted to support Theodore Roosevelt should it appear that La Follette could not win. La Follette demanded absolute loyalty; Lenroot removed himself from the delegation.

Following Wilson's election, both La Follette and Lenroot attempted to heal the breach in their relationship. They might have succeeded had it not been for the nation's gradual involvement in World War I. As a second-generation American, Lenroot supported Wilson's neutrality policies as upholding the nation's honor. La Follette did not. After war was declared, Lenroot openly condemned La Follette's position. The rift was complete.

In 1918 Lenroot won a Senate seat in a special election over La Follette's opposition. He was re-elected in 1920 again with La Follette opposed. Lenroot had long since become a moderate Republican fully integrated into his party.

Throughout his biography, Margulies explicitly stresses Lenroot's willingness to compromise. Considerable emphasis is placed upon the key role that Lenroot played in attempting to find a suitable compromise between the mild and harsh reservationists in the struggle over the Treaty of Versailles. In 1920 Lenroot was slated to become the Republican vice-presidential nominee. Then, the delegates bolted to Calvin Coolidge. It is for that incident that Lenroot is most remembered. Margulies describes the incident fully, but clearly he believes that Lenroot should be remembered more for his constructive steadiness and his willingness to compromise.

Assuredly it was the latter characteristic along with their differences on the war that broke the friendship with La Follette. Lenroot's temperament did not accord with La Follette's obduracy. Nonetheless, it was difficult for Lenroot to make the break and establish his political independence. Upon hearing of La Follette's death in 1925, Lenroot wept. The next year La Follette's sons led the successful effort to defeat Lenroot's reelection bid.

While Lenroot had difficulty breaking with La Follette, "Young Bob" never escaped the influence of his father. Maney contends that he decided to run for his father's seat in 1925 out of a sense of obligation. Unlike his father, "Young Bob" disliked campaigning and did little of it. He never intended politics to be his career and considered retiring from the Senate in 1940 and again in 1946 when he was defeated by Joseph McCarthy.

La Follette appreciated most comments that compared him favorably to his father. When he committed suicide in 1958 one pundit alleged that he had taken his life because he believed he had failed "Old Bob" in allowing McCarthy to defeat him. Maney believes that the demands placed upon him early in life and the fact that his career was chosen for him out of loyalty to his father were the primary reasons for his suicide.

Because he measured himself consistently by the standards of his father, La Follette never found complete fulfillment in his career. Despite this, Maney presents a picture of an extraordinarily effective senator. Like his father, "Young Bob" consistently pressed for policies in advance of his colleagues. He resembled "Old Bob" also in his industry. La Follette was one of the most respected senators because he was one of the best informed. In one respect he was distinctly unlike his father. Restrained and respectful of the Senate's traditions, La Follette was genuinely liked by his colleagues. "Old Bob" rarely was.

La Follette's most important contributions came during the depression of the 1930s. He was one of the first senators to call for unemployment work relief programs. He continually pressed the Roosevelt administration to provide more funds for work relief projects. La Follette also advocated tax reform and rapidly became an expert on taxation. No Keynesian, he believed most New Deal programs could be financed by higher rates levied on the wealthy and the middle classes.

Maney states that La Follette reached the height of his national prominence between 1936 and 1940 when he acted as chairman of the Senate Civil Liberties Committee. The committee investigations centered specifically upon violations of labor's right to organize. It caught the nation's attention in revealing the extent to which major corporations employed industrial spies. Even more revealing was the committee's exposure of the closed industrial paternalism that reigned in Harlan County, Kentucky, and the police riot against demonstrating laborers at Republic Steel's plant in Chicago on Memorial Day, 1937.

La Follette closed his career with the passage of the Congressional Reorganization Act of 1946. He desired the reforms to strengthen Congress in the face of an ever stronger presidency. The bill only partially achieved its objective.

Both authors have written biographies distinctly favorable to their subjects. This is particularly true of Margulies' portrayal of Senator Lenroot. While favorable, both authors are convincing. Indeed, they are sufficiently convincing to leave the impression that Senators Lenroot and La Follette, Jr., just may have served Wisconsin and the nation better than did "Old Bob."

*Reviewed by* GEORGE GARLID, *professor of history at the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.*

# news & notes

DESCRIBED as the first history of St. Paul to be published in sixty years is *St. Paul: Saga of an American City* (Woodland Hills, California, Windsor Publications, 1977, 254 p., numerous illustrations, \$19.95). The volume is largely the result of the combined efforts of the St. Paul Area Chamber of Commerce and the Ramsey County Historical Society, whose executive director, Virginia Brainard Kunz, wrote the readable text. Another society official, Robert Orr Baker, directed research for the book.

By means of both words and pictures, the story of St. Paul unfolds from the early explorers and Indians, through good times and bad, weather quirks, and many other subjects to the 1970s. The pictures are a mixture of unfamiliar and familiar, including such curiously far-afield subjects as the famous charge of the First Minnesota Regiment at Gettysburg in 1863 and the hanging of thirty-eight Sioux Indians at Mankato in 1862. Most readers will be relieved to reach page 103, from which point to the end of the book (except for an attractive color section) the pictures and text are printed in sensible black and white. The first 102 pages, unfortunately, are in an eye-fatiguing rust color. The last portion of the book consists of a series of useful business biographies by writer Carol Pine. The volume includes a bibliography and an index.

AN INCURABLE DISEASE, which Lyndon C. Viel calls "Red Wingus Collectoritis," was the origin of a new guide to Red Wing pottery. It is entitled *The Clay Giants: The Stoneware of Red Wing, Goodhue County, Minnesota* (Des Moines, Iowa, Wallace-Homestead Book Co., 1977, illustrations, 128 p., paper \$9.95). The book not only describes the various kinds of Red Wing pottery, and the history of the various companies that produced it, but manages to communicate a great deal of Viel's enthusiasm for his subject. "I am a supposed adult," says Viel, "who goes berserk in the shops and basements of friends and enemies over the feel of cold, super-hard ceramic with obscure markings." The many photographs of Red Wing pottery in the book are helpful but are not as good as the text.

Lovers of Red Wing pottery will also be interested in a new exhibit on the second floor of the Minnesota Historical

Society's main building at 690 Cedar Street. The exhibit, which will be on display until after the first of the year, is entitled "The Pottery of Red Wing" and displays a representative sampling of the many kinds of Red Wing pottery, all the way from sewer pipes and crocks to dinnerware of the 1950s.

ALTHOUGH it might seem strange for a building tour of a city's downtown to be concerned primarily with the kinds of stones which went into the structures on the tour, a new booklet published this year by the Ramsey County Historical Society demonstrates that such an approach is not only feasible but fruitful. Written by Sister Joan Kain and containing photographs by Joan Larson Kelly, *Rocky Roots: Three Geology Walking Tours of Downtown St. Paul* (32 p., paper \$1.00) will show readers and tourists an aspect of St. Paul's buildings they may not have perceived. Described in the booklet are many buildings not mentioned in earlier guides to the subject. Also included in the entries are short architectural histories of the buildings. Unfortunately the booklet contains no list of references to other sources on the subject.

LIFE in a small midwestern private college in the 1950s is the subject of a new book by Arthur O. Lee, professor of history at Bemidji State University. Called *Brother Hottenbotten: College, and A Skewed View of the 1950's* (Adventure Press, P.O. Box 96, Staples, Minn. 56479, 1977, 133 p., paper \$2.95), the fictionalized autobiographical account was written for Lee's history-hating freshmen students. It tells of a year in the lives of four peculiar, interesting, and possibly typical male students at the college, and in so doing explores Lee's ideas about history and its relationship to the confusing passage of events known as everyday life.

A MICROFILM EDITION of the papers of George William Featherstonhaugh, borrowed for microfilming by the Minnesota Historical Society in 1977, is now available for use in the MHS division of archives and manuscripts. Copies of the microfilm can also be borrowed on interlibrary loan through any library or purchased from the microfilm co-ordinator, division of archives

and manuscripts, Minnesota Historical Society, 1500 Mississippi Street, St. Paul, Minn. 55101. On the ten rolls of microfilm, which cost \$17.50 each (or \$150 for the set), are a variety of papers and records relating to the geologist, government servant, traveler, and businessman, who came to Minnesota in 1835 and recorded his observations in the book, *A Canoe Voyage up the Minnaw Sotor*, reprinted by the Minnesota Historical Society in 1970.

Of special interest in relation to that trip are the diaries upon which Featherstonhaugh based his book. In them are observations that even the acid-tongued Featherstonhaugh preferred not to publish. For example, Featherstonhaugh remarks in the diary, though not in the book, that the wife of Indian agent Lawrence Taliaferro "is a very pretty woman from Bedford in Pennsylvania, and the Major seems in too feeble health for a lady of her calibre."

Also of interest in the collection is a letter in French from Featherstonhaugh to the French scientist and traveler, Joseph N. Nicollet, who was to follow Featherstonhaugh up the Minnesota River in 1838. In this letter, written in Washington, D.C., on April 22, 1838, Featherstonhaugh gives Nicollet advice for his coming trip. "Please pay close attention, my dear Nicollet," he says in part, "to the direction of the Coteau des Prairies. This is practically unknown country. I climbed it at approximately the 46th parallel. From there it extends more or less N.N.W., is interrupted by a depression and then continues on. There is a terrible blunder on my map of the Minnaw Sotor, caused by my guide Milord who insisted that the Elm River flowed between the James River and the Coteau of the Missouri. This I think is an error. The Elm River is a tributary of the James River but farther south. Find out all you can about this and about the topography of the Coteau des Prairies."

DESPITE THE FACT that connoisseurs of Minnesota's own endangered diners will locate none of their favorites in the new book, *Diners*, by photo-realist painter John Baeder (New York, Harry N. Abrams, 1978, 144 p., paper \$7.95), they will nonetheless find the book to be a fascinating survey of its subject. Baeder, who paints in color from photographs, is scrupulously exact in portray-

ing his subjects, most of whom reside in cities in eastern United States. He has a fine eye for capturing more perfectly than is possible with color photography the effects of light, time of day, and weather on his subjects.

Baeder is as good a writer and documentarian as he is a painter. His text and captions describe in detail the origins of his interest in diners, his trips in search of diners, and what he knows of each diner he paints. In addition he attempts to explain something of the place that diners had in the psyche of pre-mansard America. Baeder also has a fine sense of humor, and his thumbnail sketches of imaginary but plausible diners of the future, such as a completely mansardized diner and a bagel-shaped deli-diner, are wonderful commentaries on the present "state of the diner" in America. The book is well worth having, especially at its very reasonable price.

THE 125-year history of a prominent Minneapolis church is chronicled in *History of Wesley Church* by Walter A. Carlock, published by the Wesley United Methodist Church. The paperbound book (189 p., \$4.00) gives a brief history of the development of Methodism and the establishment and growth of the church in the state and in Minneapolis. The illustrated book includes biographical sketches of its pastors and some of the other prominent and long-time members, and describes the growth of the church, and various activities such as its choir, drama group, Bible classes, and women's organizations.

THE FIRST issue of what promises to be an annual journal of *Finnish Americana: A Journal of Finnish American History and Culture*, has been published by a group of scholars headed by Michael G. Karni. The editors welcome "articles, fiction, poetry, autobiographical essays, criticism, edited documents, bibliographies and reviews" dealing with the Finns in North America, their roots in Europe, and their relationships to other ethnic groups. Volume one contains several book reviews, two pieces of short fiction in translation, and articles on subjects ranging from Finnish farmers in the United States to "The Feminist Dilemma in the Finnish Immigrant Community." Finnish place names in the Midwest are examined, as is a Finnish settlement in Oregon. Other articles sample "America letters" sent by immigrants to friends and family in Finland and discuss a prominent pioneer Finnish-American newspaperman, Alexander Leinonen.

Subscriptions, which cost \$4.00 per issue, can be ordered from the journal's editorial office at 2208 Third Street Northwest, New Brighton, Minn. 55112.

DEBORAH STULTZ

PAPERS are being sought for the eleventh annual Dakota History Conference to be held April 6-7, 1979, on the campus of Dakota State College, Madison, South Dakota. Subjects should relate to some aspect of South Dakota, Dakota Territory, or the frontier history of the upper Great Plains region. The Karl E. Mundt Educational and Historical Foundation has announced three prizes for the best papers presented: first prize \$250, second prize \$150, and third prize \$100. Each paper submitted for competition must be read by the author.

Correspondence should be addressed to: Herbert W. Blakely, History Department, Dakota State College, Madison, South Dakota 57042.

IN A well-written pamphlet, *Shadows in the Stillness: Early Man on the Rainy River*, Marx Swanholm backgrounds the "mysterious mound-building people" who lived on the Rainy some 2,000 years ago along what is now the border between Minnesota and Ontario. They built the Grand Mound and three smaller ones nearby that are the "type site" for the Laurel culture and are now owned by the Minnesota Historical Society. Swanholm's 26-page work (St. Paul, Minnesota Historical Society, 1978, illustrations, paper \$1.50) is part of the Minnesota Historic Sites Pamphlet Series.

The author reminds us that the Laurel "were part of a slowly evolving process of adaptation to the North American environment" that had begun up to 40,000 years ago when Asian people crossed the Bering Strait area. He discusses the Paleo big-game hunters, the later Archaic cultures and the still later Woodland cultures, including the Laurel and Blackduck, who developed agriculture, pottery, permanent settlements, and built burial mounds. He also treats early myths about mound builders.

A NEW BOOK, written and published by MHS reference librarians Wiley R. Pope and Alissa L. Wiener, is designed to aid Minnesotans in reconstructing their family trees. *Tracing Your Ancestors in Minnesota: A Guide to Sources* (illustrations, 195 p., paper) may be obtained for \$7.50 postpaid from the Pope Families Association, 718 Sims Ave., St. Paul, Minn. 55106, or from the MHS Museum Shop and Bookstore. For Pope, who is a longtime genealogist in his own

right, genealogical research combines "the best of many interests," such as correspondence, travel, photography, detective work, writing, and publishing. Contained in the book is a great deal of information on the use of local and national genealogical sources, including courthouses, libraries, the National Archives, and the Minnesota Historical Society.

WASHINGTON: A *History of the Minnesota County* (illustrations, 333 p., cloth \$12.95, paper \$8.95), is an attractively printed book published by the Washington County Historical Society in 1977. The volume which was edited by Willard Rosenfeldt and printed by the Croixside Press in Stillwater, contains many handsome photos documenting the county's history. A special feature of the book is a twenty-three-page section of photographs collected by the historically minded commercial photographer, John Runk, whose career in Stillwater spanned some fifty years. Copies of Runk's own pictures and those he collected are owned by the Stillwater Public Library and the MHS.

## Indexes Discontinued

BECAUSE OF high cost of production and small demand, indexes for each two-year volume of *Minnesota History* have been discontinued beginning with volume 45, which ended with the Winter, 1977, issue. Separate indexes are still available from the Order Department, Minnesota Historical Society, 1500 Mississippi Street, St. Paul, Minn. 55101, for volumes 8, 16, 17, 23, 24, 26, 28-31, and 34-44. They are priced at \$3.00 each, plus Minnesota sales tax (if applicable) and a postage and handling charge of 50 cents per order.

Work is well advanced on a cumulative index covering volumes 11 through 40 of *Minnesota History*. It is scheduled for publication in 1980. In the future, ten-year cumulative indexes will be published as subsequent volumes are completed. The first ten-year index, covering volumes 41 through 50, will appear early in 1988. Others will be published at regular ten-year intervals thereafter.

Until the cumulative volumes are published, index card files to the contents of current volumes will be maintained in the publications division of the Minnesota Historical Society at 690 Cedar Street, where they will be available for consultation.

**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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