

ing World War I, for example. While American men fought in France, women and children in small towns across Minnesota sewed quilts and knit socks and sweaters to keep the young soldiers warm. The Becker County Red Cross created eleven quilts during 1917 and 1918. The Frazee branch of the same organization was particularly active. Its 500 members created 2,480 different articles and raised nearly \$5,000 before the Armistice. After the war, branch member Mary Parker sewed a quilt as a memorial to neighbors who had served in the armed forces. Frazee was not a large town; in 1920 only 1,300 people lived there. But at least 199 of its young men had enlisted in the war effort, and all are named on Mary Parker's quilt. Gold stars identify the eleven men who died in the war.¹⁹

Despite the clues still attached to many of the quilts, some tell us exasperatingly little about their makers. One of the most striking, carefully constructed quilts was

¹⁹Accession no. 6068. Daniel Nelson, comp., *An Honor Roll Containing a Pictorial Record of the Men and Women from Becker County, Minnesota, U.S.A. Who Served in the Great War* (Detroit, Minn., 1920).

²⁰Accession no. 65.154.

²¹For further information, read: Jonathan Holstein, *The Pieced Quilt: An American Design Tradition* (Boston, 1973); Bruce Johnson, et al., *A Child's Comfort. Baby and Doll Quilts in American Folk Art* (New York, 1977); Patsy and Myron Orlofsky, *Quilts in America* (New York, 1974); and Carleton L. Safford and Robert Bishop, *America's Quilts and Coverlets* (New York, 1974).

One of the largest and best documented quilt collections in Minnesota is the Hands All Around Quilt Museum in New Ulm, owned by Joyce Auderheide. An outstanding quilt from her collection was recently hung in Vice-President Walter Mondale's office in Washington, D.C., to represent the significance of America's folk art tradition.

pieced in the Mariner's Compass design and trimmed with a streak-of-lightning border and scalloped edges. The maker was so proud of her work that she embroidered her name in tiny cross-stitches: "Susan Hanks was born June the 8th 1808. This finished April 10th 1857." Despite Susan Hanks' concern that she not remain anonymous, her identity is a mystery. According to the quilt's donor, Susan was a cousin of Nancy Hanks, the mother of Abraham Lincoln. But no record of such a cousin born in 1808 can be found. Nor is she listed in any Minnesota census or biographical collection. She remains as anonymous as hundreds of other needlework artists who did not sign their work.²⁰

Research must be undertaken concerning each of the quilts in the collection. Only from the cumulation of those specific studies can we really begin to sketch out a picture of the role of quilts in Minnesota's material culture. How did utilitarian quilts differ from "show" quilts? Did people make them for their thriftiness or for their beauty? Were most quilts constructed by quilting bees or family members?

Yet there are answers in the quilts as well. In the society's collection you will find many messages from the quiltmakers: The kinds of clothes they wore, the colors they liked, the events they thought important to commemorate, and, above all, their pride in good workmanship in this traditional women's art form.²¹

A free brochure discussing each of the quilts in the Minnesota Historical Society exhibit is available by writing Curator of Exhibits, Education Division, Minnesota Historical Society, 690 Cedar St., St. Paul, Minn. 55101.

ALL of the black and white photos are from the collections of the MHS audio-visual library. The color pictures of the quilts were taken by Nicholas and Virginia Westbrook, Elizabeth Hall, and Martin Fowler.

Book Reviews

F. Scott Fitzgerald in Minnesota: His Homes and Haunts. By John J. Koblas.

(St. Paul, Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1978. 50 p. Map, illustrations. Paper \$3.75)

ALTHOUGH the elm trees that for a hundred years arched over historic Summit Avenue are succumbing to the Dutch Elm beetle, and several of the houses between the Cathedral of St. Paul and Dale Street have been subdivided into apartments or are no longer used as private homes, most of the structures

lining the avenue have survived the fifty-seven years that have passed since Scott, Zelda, and Scottie Fitzgerald left the area for good. As John Koblas points out, many of the places in the area that Fitzgerald frequented as a boy and young man still stand.

The fifty pages of this pamphlet in the Minnesota Historic Sites series are devoted to identifying those places and to relating the events in Fitzgerald's life to the sites where he stayed and played. Fitzgerald was born in St. Paul in 1896, moved East with his family in 1899, and returned in 1908, staying until 1922. Koblas' book recalls those years, taking the reader to the homes, backyards, and places which inspired such Fitzgerald stories as "Winter Dreams," "Ice Palace," "Bernice Bobs Her Hair," and the Basil and Josephine stories. The reader visits the scene of the "Bad Luck Ball" and the Dellwood golf course

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.

where Zelda played and Dexter Green met Judy Jones. The pictures and anecdotes are a delight for those interested in seeing the Minnesota Fitzgerald knew well.

There are a few discrepancies in the information supplied by Koblas and that offered in Ernest Sandeen's *St. Paul's Historic Summit Avenue* (McQuillan house — 623 or 629 Summit?), but of more concern is Koblas' reliance on Malcolm Cowley's vision of Fitzgerald as being on the outside of St. Paul society ("a little midwestern boy with his nose to the glass"). This perception has been repeated by Fitzgerald researchers, who seem to have based their utterings, not on personal research but on previous writings. Nandra Kalman, a deeply rooted member of a St. Paul family long associated with St. Paul society, who grew up with Scott and remained friends with him throughout his life, says flatly of this perception that "It's simply not true." She and her husband Oscar, who was also close to Scott, were dismayed with Arthur Mizener's account of Fitzgerald's St. Paul associations in *The Far Side of Paradise* and pleaded with Andrew Turnbull, who spent all of thirty minutes with them, to set the record straight. Turnbull didn't. Norris Jackson, another Fitzgerald contemporary, supports Mrs. Kalman's recollections. Scott's membership and activities in Professor William H. Baker's dancing class, the White Bear Yacht Club, at the Town and Country Club, and the University Club, and his invitations to all the "right" parties are evidence that the view of Fitzgerald as an outsider needs re-examination.

Koblas' accounting relies too heavily on the work of Fitzgerald's biographers — especially Mizener and Turnbull — and, this reviewer thinks, not enough on the testimonies of the surviving Fitzgerald contemporaries who include, among others, Nandra Kalman, Norris Jackson, Robert Clark, Marie Hersey, and Scott's sister Annabel, whose observations might have added to the Fitzgerald story.

While there are no startling revelations in this publication and, as noted, at least one recurring myth needs reconsideration, *F. Scott Fitzgerald in Minnesota* is attractively presented, and Koblas has assembled much Fitzgerald St. Paul lore under one cover, a combination that should appeal to Fitzgerald buffs and motivate others to visit the area and retrace Fitzgerald's footsteps.

Reviewed by Lloyd Hackl, chairman of the English department at Lakewood Community College, White Bear Lake, and a student of F. Scott Fitzgerald's career.

The Frank B. Kellogg Papers. A Microfilm Edition.

(St. Paul, Minnesota Historical Society, 1978. 54 rolls and printed guide, \$810.00. Single rolls, \$17.50.)

***Guide to a Microfilm Edition of the Frank B. Kellogg Papers.* By Deborah K. Neubeck.**

(St. Paul, Minnesota Historical Society, 1978. 56 p. Illustration. \$2.00.)

THE PERSONAL PAPERS of Frank Billings Kellogg are the most recent of the manuscript collections of the Minnesota Historical Society to be made available for research on microfilm. Funded by the National Historical Publications and

Records Commission, the publication was well conceived and admirably concluded, and both institutions are to be congratulated for facilitating access to the papers of prominent twentieth-century figures. Often remembered only for his negotiation of the Pact of Paris with Aristide Briand, Kellogg was also an important antitrust lawyer, United States senator, ambassador to Great Britain, and justice of the World Court. This publication should do much to enlarge his historical reputation.

The project staff has done a commendable job in easing the difficulties of microfilm research. The filming is of high quality, the documents are carefully arranged and labeled, and the collection is accompanied by a useful, well-written guide. One innovation, which will surely be appreciated by researchers who use reader-printers for note-taking, is the inclusion of collection name and reel number on every frame.

The collection consists of fifty-four rolls of correspondence, clipping scrapbooks, and other personal papers such as memoranda and printed and draft copies of speeches and articles. Arranged together into one chronological sequence, the correspondence and personal papers represent the largest and more important segment of the publication (fifty-one rolls). Although there are some documents of earlier date, comprehensive coverage begins with Kellogg's election to the Senate in 1916. Even after this date, however, there are some significant gaps, apparently because Kellogg weeded his senatorial files and failed to retain personal copies of many diplomatic dispatches and other official papers. On the other hand, some periods in his career are obscured by large quantities of routine documentation.

The guide of fifty-six pages includes a chronology, a brief bibliography, and roll notes. In keeping with the Minnesota Historical Society's tendency toward "austere, functional" archival finding aids, the roll notes are actually six brief essays that analyze the papers in terms of the light they shed on particular phases of Kellogg's career. For each roll the editors have also included lists of subject contents, in some cases using subheadings and phrases to clarify the main headings. This approach will unquestionably save much reading of needless exposition, but the researcher must be warned to examine the subject headings carefully. For example, on roll one information on the Standard Oil case is noted under the heading "Sherman Anti-trust Act," but on roll four it appears as a subheading under "Elections and Election Campaigns." In another case, the activities of Senator Robert La Follette, Sr., appear under the title, "Republican Party," while later in the guide they are catalogued under "Radicalism."

Few personal or organization names are included in the roll notes. Instead, the most prominent of these have been grouped into a summary listing which indexes to the roll level. While this technique is as informative as most manuscript registers, the unpleasantness of microfilm research makes locating a particular citation more difficult with film than it would be with hard copy.

Criticism in this regard, however, rests not with the Minnesota Historical Society but with the National Historical Publications and Records Commission. Although the commission is demanding with regard to technical standards, its guidelines actually discourage reference aids. "Because of the limited resources available for support of this program . . . the Commis-

sion will not ordinarily support the cost of preparing indexes. " The guidelines then go on to state that "it is the Commission's intention that all filming will be done with every exposure numbered by an automatic numbering device on the camera so that comprehensive or selective item lists or detailed indexes can be prepared later by the repository or by any scholar or scholarly organization." This reviewer is not aware of any scholars or scholarly organizations that have been so inclined.

Revising the guidelines to require meaningful use of frame numbers need not mean an enormous increase in the commission's microfilm budget. Analysis of the Kellogg Papers, for example, suggests that indexing can be applied selectively. Because of the collection's relatively homogeneous content and chronological arrangement, many important aspects of Kellogg's career are appropriately accessed by date. Research which focuses not on Kellogg but on his correspondents, however, could benefit from more detailed handling. Indexing of the prominent correspondents (only about 300 names in the Kellogg Papers) would only moderately add to the cost of the project but would greatly increase its research value.

Reviewed by Carolyn J. Mattern, an archivist with an NEH-funded project for the Mass Communications History Center at the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. She was publications editor for the microfilm edition of the Robert M. La Follette, Sr., Papers.

***America Revisited: 150 Years after Tocqueville.* By Eugene J. McCarthy.**

(Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday and Company, Inc., 1978. 256 p. \$7.95.)

IN THIS BOOK, Eugene McCarthy attempts to provide perspective on the current scene by comparing it with the America described and analyzed by Alexis de Tocqueville, a French visitor to the United States 150 years ago. McCarthy believes that Tocqueville's classic, *Democracy in America*, "still provides the best frame of reference, both descriptive and analytical, for the examination of American democracy and social institutions." This emphasis on the usefulness of Tocqueville seems ironic as one begins to read McCarthy, because he is using Tocqueville to criticize America as it exists today. He dramatizes the failures of Tocqueville's prophecies about the American future to clarify the major threats to our republic. "The tyranny of the majority has not yet become a reality," as Tocqueville predicted, McCarthy writes, "nor has the movement toward equality." In place of Tocqueville's failed prophecies, McCarthy presents a "new analysis" that identifies "five institutional changes, no one of which was clearly anticipated when Tocqueville looked at American democracy. All five have to do with the concentration of power. They are the increased power of the presidency, of the military, of private corporations, of government bureaucracies, and of political parties.

McCarthy is concerned with the ways in which these concentrations of power are destroying the political liberty embodied in the republic established by the Founding Fathers in 1789.

McCarthy's use of Tocqueville to dramatize the crisis of our

republic is ironic because, when a new school of historians established a consensus interpretation of our history in the 1950s, they appealed to Tocqueville's analysis to disprove the position of Progressive and Marxist historians. Progressive historians such as Charles Beard and Marxist historians in the 1940s saw conflict between the people and powerful capitalists as a central thread in our national experience. But the consensus historians appealed to the authority of Tocqueville for their argument that no such deep division characterized our past.

But while McCarthy differs from the conservative liberalism of the consensus historians in using Tocqueville to criticize our status quo rather than to apologize for it, he, as they did, gives priority to political rather than to social and economic history. The consensus historians used this emphasis on political history to ignore the deep social and economic divisions in our society. Unlike them, McCarthy sees our political life in crisis. But his solution to this crisis is political. His major answer to the concentration of political power is a revitalization of the electoral college by having electors chosen from more than 2,000 small districts. He believes that the Founding Fathers had found a good balance between liberty and equality in their institutionalization in the electoral college of the differences between a natural aristocracy and the people. For McCarthy, that balance already was in the process of decline when Tocqueville arrived. McCarthy hopes to solve our problems by appealing to the disinterested intelligence of rational men.

By disassociating political life from social and economic structures, McCarthy can concentrate on political reform without advocating social and economic reform. This leads to a fascinating series of ambiguities and contradictions when he departs from his political analysis to look at Tocqueville's comments on American society. For those who have become interested in the way in which ecology calls into question some of our economic values, Tocqueville's description of the tragedy of the American Indian in 1831 will be arresting. "In the midst of this American society, so well-policed, so charitable, a cold selfishness and complete insensibility prevails when it is a question of the natives of the country." Americans believed, according to Tocqueville, that "the Indian race is destined for final destruction which one cannot prevent and which it is not desirable to delay." McCarthy is aware that there is a total contradiction between white middle-class values of private property and Indian values of communal ownership. And yet he concludes that, because our political system is pluralistic, there is a place for Indian values within that system. In writing of Blacks, McCarthy also declares that, "Until changes are brought about in the American economic system, the minorities will carry a continuing burden of poverty, of unemployment, and segregated low-paid employment." But since his major concern is with the political marketplace rather than the economic marketplace, he does not suggest what those changes should be.

His book, therefore, seems to express many of the principles of the conservative liberalism of the 1950s. But the consensus historians were complacent as they found no important problems in their America. McCarthy, at the end of the 1970s, is not complacent. For many of us, however, the problems that beset us now and which loom even larger when we look at the immediate future will not be solved by nostalgia for the repub-

lic of 1789 or even clarified by a narrowly political analysis of the historical process.

Reviewed by DAVID W. NOBLE, professor of history at the University of Minnesota, who specializes in modern American culture. He is the author of *Historians against History*, and *The Progressive Mind, 1890-1917*.

The Visible Hand: The Managerial Revolution in American Business. By Alfred D. Chandler, Jr.
(Cambridge, Harvard University Press, 1977. xvi, 608 p. Illustrations. \$18.50.)

DO MARKET FORCES, Adam Smith's "Invisible Hand," still control the production, distribution, and pricing of goods and services in the marketplace? Although the emergence of oligopoly and a maze of national, state, and local government regulations would seem to have ensured their demise long ago, argument over the power of market forces continues.

Alfred Chandler's latest work takes its title from the author's premise that Adam Smith's theory cannot explain the development of the modern American marketplace and the corporations that serve it. Chandler is well qualified for this task, having coauthored the remarkably perceptive *Pierre S. DuPont and the Making of the Modern Corporation* and written *Strategy and Structure: Chapters in the History of the American Industrial Enterprise*, among other works.

Since before the turn of the century, American supercorporations — the "big businesses" that are so frequently discussed — have been written about by a variety of authors with a wide selection of motives. Some have produced the predictable company-sponsored histories that provide dates, names, and little else. Others, such as the redoubtable Ida Tarbell and her better-informed but hardly less acerbic successors, have ground their axes on the block of corporate iniquity (as they have seen it), with little attempt to analyze the reasons behind the development of the modern corporate structure. Some writers, such as John Kenneth Galbraith in *The New Industrial State*, have indeed taken a more penetrating look, though with somewhat debatable results. Virtually no one, however, has bothered to study an event that has proved both creator and creation of the modern business enterprise — the rise of an authentic class of corporate management elite.

Chandler's work is refreshing because he rejects the economists' preoccupation with econometric models and purely statistical analysis that omits reference to the historical context within which America's large corporations have grown and which has shaped their development. Indeed, Chandler is not an economist at all, but a historian, and this book puts the corporation in historical perspective. It is a major attempt to document the rise of a "new subspecies of economic man — the salaried manager." This new breed of corporate decision-maker has, in Chandler's estimation, replaced the market forces of Adam Smith with the visible hand of managerial capitalism. "The market remained the generator of demand for goods and services, but modern business enterprise took over the functions of coordinating flows of goods through existing processes of production and distribution, and of allocating funds and personnel for future production and distribution. As modern busi-

ness enterprise acquired functions hitherto carried out by the market, it became the most powerful institution in the American economy and its managers the most influential group of economic decision makers."

Beginning with the sudden withdrawal of British commercial domination from the American colonies after the Revolutionary War, Chandler constructs his rationale through a thorough examination of eight propositions. First, large modern enterprises replaced small ones when co-ordination by administration produced higher production and profit growth than co-ordination by market mechanisms. Second, creation of a managerial class was the inevitable result of administrative co-ordination. Third, large enterprises were produced by dramatic growth in market volume. Fourth, once created, the managerial class generated its own "permanence, power and continued growth." Fifth, the complexities of the modern business enterprise created a need for specialization among corporate managers. Sixth, this necessity for professional management gradually separated management from ownership. Seventh, corporate managers came to favor long-term stability and growth over short-term profits. Eighth, domination of various markets by large enterprises permanently altered the entire economy. These basic premises outline the work, and Chandler uses them skillfully in building his case.

The book is carefully written, and its relevance to current events is obvious in sections such as those on corporate integration. With mergers and merger attempts very much in the news, it is fascinating to study the creation of the oil, tobacco, and sugar industry giants in the late nineteenth century. Chandler points out that mergers were not always profitable, especially when they involved horizontal rather than vertical integration. The sugar trust built by Henry O. Havemayer attempted to control that industry by purchasing controlling interest in new corporations as they appeared, a strategy that succeeded until the growth of beet sugar production made further acquisitions too expensive. Chandler's study of the sugar trust also provides a graphic example of the changes that occurred when direction by entrepreneur was replaced with direction by a corps of managers. Havemayer's death made possible a drastic change in the operation of the American Sugar Refining Company, which changed from horizontal to vertical integration and thus ensured its own survival.

One small surprise in this section is Chandler's contention that development of the sugar trust, among others, was not influenced by its access to the capital-raising power of the financial markets. History would seem to indicate otherwise, and Chandler advances no direct evidence to support his claim.

An analysis of the development of middle management and of top management yields similarly interesting results. Chandler contends that the ranks of middle management grew fastest in those companies (such as Pillsbury, Wrigley, and Heinz) in which founding family members continued to manage or personally to select the top management of their companies. Top management, on the other hand, developed most rapidly in those companies formed by merger rather than through internal growth. Stockholder positions in those companies were seldom large enough to permit personal or family domination of the management. Thus, "enterprises that pioneered in the ways of middle management did very little to develop methods of top management. That contribution was made by

the managerial enterprises that grew out of the early industry-wide mergers."

Chandler's book is very readable. It is indeed history, filled with accounts of personal and corporate histories that have shaped American business. Although one might initially wonder whether the author has attempted to do too much in one volume, the end result is both satisfying and convincing. The strength of the research upon which it is based, the careful composition of its structure, and the clarity of the writing ensure it landmark status in the field of American business history.

Reviewed by JAMES E. FOGERTY, *field director for the Minnesota Historical Society's division of archives and manuscripts.*

***The World for a Marketplace: Episodes in the History of European Expansion.* By John Parker.**

(Minneapolis: The Associates of the James Ford Bell Library, 1978. 253 p. Illustrations. \$15.00.)

ONE OF the rich collections of historical materials to which Minnesota scholars have ready access is held by the James Ford Bell Library, housed in the Wilson Library on the University of Minnesota's Minneapolis campus. To mark the library's twenty-fifth anniversary and call attention to the international scope of its primary source materials, John Parker prepared this handsome and readable volume. He has been curator of the Bell Library since its inception in 1953. The book, whose emphasis is apparent in its title, not only amply fulfills its mission — it is worth reading in its own right.

Not the least interesting of its fifteen short chapters is Parker's introduction, "James Ford Bell and His Books," in which the beginning, purpose, and scope of the collection are described. Bell, says Parker, desired to develop a library to tell "the story of western civilization's expansion through the driving force of commercial impetus," which created "a world economy dominated by Europeans." The curator charmingly recalls how, as a young librarian, he and the builder of General Mills collected together on a world-wide scale from 1953 until Bell's death in 1961. He also reports on how the collection has been intelligently increased since then in keeping with its founders' purpose until it now numbers over 10,000 items — rare editions, maps, and documents both printed and manuscript — dealing broadly with world trade from 1400 to 1800.

Parker then moves on to fourteen roughly chronological, brief "episodes," as he terms them, a potpourri of informative essays on various aspects of world trade as reflected in the Bell collection. The opening one, entitled "A Chronicle of Beginnings," deals with the Portuguese in Africa in the fifteenth century, a period Parker regards as the beginning of "the modern Age of Empire." The next chapter, "Where's the Money Coming From?" sketches in bold strokes the relationship of German and Italian merchants and bankers to the spice trade and to exploration of the New World at the time of Columbus and Amerigo Vespucci.

A trio of episodes — "Tobacco, Conqueror of the World," "The Indigo Cycle," and "Following the Beaver" — suggest the novelty and quantity of goods traded after 1492. In a suc-

cinct seven pages, Parker, the knowledgeable editor of *The Journals of Jonathan Carver*, published by the Minnesota Historical Society in 1976, emphasizes the economic effects of the fashion in beaver hats upon exploration in North America and competition in the world's fur markets before 1763. The impact of, importance of, and attempts to grow tobacco and indigo in various parts of the globe make equally interesting reading, illustrated, as are all the chapters, by well-chosen items from the Bell Library. A particularly apt series of drawings depicts the growing and processing of indigo from its planting by slaves to its finished product as cakes prized by dyemakers.

A quintet of chapters focuses on some successes and failures of Dutch, French, Swedish, Scottish, and English trading companies in the 1600s and 1700s. These range from "The Indian Ocean's Web of Trade" as a source of new products and European wealth, through Willem Usselinx, pamphleteer and promoter of Dutch and Swedish colonization, to "John Law and the Mississippi Conglomerate," which retells the tale of this eighteenth-century financier's spectacularly unsuccessful attempt to re-establish a sound French currency backed by land in the Mississippi Valley rather than by silver and gold. Three chapters concern failures of various other kinds — of French missionaries in Siam in 1688, of a Scottish company's attempt to colonize the Isthmus of Panama in 1698, and of the interminable eight-year-long impeachment trial of Warren Hastings, governor general of England's East India Company in the years following the American Revolution. Parker uses these failures to shed light on the tangled interrelationships of trade, religion, war, and politics in such widely separated places as Siam, England, India, and the American colonies.

Three additional episodes contribute even more variety. "A Battle of Books" enlightens the reader concerning the beginnings of maritime law. "Linnaeus and the Transplanters" presents an economic view of the work of the Swedish botanist and his "apostles" around the world in searching for plants whose medicinal, nutritional, or economic value might help foster self-sufficiency in Sweden. The final episode, "A Latin Essay at Cambridge, 1785," deals with the far-flung influence of Thomas Clarkson, an Englishman who worked from 1785 until 1807 to arouse the world to the evils of slavery and obtain the passage in England of a law prohibiting the landing of slaves in British colonies after March, 1808.

Reviewed by JUNE D. HOLMQUIST, *the Minnesota Historical Society's assistant director for publications and research.*

***Sister to the Sioux: The Memoirs of Elaine Goodale Eastman, 1885-91.* Edited by Kay Gruber.**

(Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1978. xiii, 175 p. Illustrations. \$10.95)

PENNED more than forty years after her travels and work on the Great Sioux Reservation, these memoirs of Elaine Goodale Eastman have all the freshness and vividness of an immediate report by a skillful and sensitive writer. While this is undoubtedly due to the fact that they are based heavily on her contemporaneous notes and articles, it must be remembered that after her conversion at fifteen to the cause of the Indian, the Sioux, or Dakota, were never absent from her thoughts. It was

on the reservation that she met her future husband, Charles Eastman, the grandson of a Dakota maiden and the artist and army officer, Seth Eastman. She helped him prepare nine books, many of which were on Indian lore, and wrote seven of her own, including a biography of the Indian's "Moses." Richard Pratt, the leading figure in the founding of the Carlisle Indian School. Editor Kay Gruber notes that Elaine Eastman "continued to write on current Indian matters and to review books about Indians virtually until her death in 1953."

Elaine Eastman begins with a rapid account of her ancestry, her own birth in 1863, girlhood, and education at "Sky Farm," five miles from Egremont, Massachusetts, and the publication of her first poetry. When she was twenty the family home was broken up and Elaine went to Hampton Institute in Virginia to teach Indian youth and to publicize Samuel Chapman Armstrong's novel experiment of educating and integrating Indians into white civilization. Within two years she was west of the Missouri River, conducting a "day school" at a primitive Indian village within the Lower Brulé Agency. She quickly learned Dakota, made friends with the Indians, adopted some of their customs, and during the summer holidays familiarized herself with the main features of the 30,000-square-mile reservation and the personnel of the six separate government agencies. In 1889 she was appointed supervisor of Indian education for North Dakota and South Dakota and was at Pine Ridge when the heart-rending Wounded Knee disaster occurred.

When Mrs. Eastman saw the Dakota Indians, they had been defeated militarily and their culture was undergoing rapid change. She condemned the federal government for its broken promises and the reservation system which kept the conquered warriors in a dependent status when "they wanted the chance to learn the new way and once more stand as men, among men." She wrote: "It might well be said that we wronged the Indians most, not when we destroyed their wild herds or drove them from their vast ranges, but when we delayed too long the recompense of an equal share in the most advanced culture that inevitably displaced their own."

The book's format is appealing, the editorial notes are succinct, and the three-and-one-half-page "Epilogue" recounts the high points of Eastman's life from her marriage in 1891 to 1930. In reality, the "Epilogue" is a reprint of her "All the Days of My Life" from the July, 1937, *South Dakota Historical Review*. While interesting in itself, it is insufficient in completing the autobiographical portrait, and since no biographical sketch of this remarkable woman seems to be readily available, this reader wishes the editor had supplied the deficiency with emphasis on the last sixty years of her life. Helpful, too, would have been a bibliography of Eastman's writings beyond the titles of her seven books, or, at least, a list of the journals to which she was a contributor, with an indication of the years of most active contributions. I would also like to have seen some indication of the extent of her papers in the Sophia Smith Collection, which contributed at least four of the illustrations. Within the *Memoirs* there are quotes from her own diary, but the editor fails to indicate the whereabouts of this diary or diary fragments, if indeed the journals still exist. And of course, there is the inevitable question: Was the diary continued after marriage? In short, the *Memoirs* could have been greatly enhanced by a critical appraisal of the life, times, and influence of Elaine Goodale Eastman.

Reviewed by MARY LEE SPENCE, academic counselor and assistant professor of history at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign. She is co-editor of *The Expeditions of John C. Frémont*.

Candles in the Wind. By Edris Probstfield Hack.

(Published by the author, 848 U Street, Rio Linda, Cal. 1977. 290 p. \$6.95.)

This Quiet Dust. By Ivan Kubista.

(New York, Vantage Press, and Old Frontenac Heritage Preservation Commission, 1978. 204 p. Illustrations. \$7.95.)

HISTORICAL NOVELS occupy an unenviable position in the book world. A blend of two seemingly incompatible elements, fact and fiction, they confound everyone from librarians who must decide upon which shelf they should be placed to readers who must decide whether to read them as history or fiction. Where does fact end and fiction begin? Too often historical novels are read one way or the other. History buffs pick fretfully through the story to separate fact from fiction and shake their heads when an incorrect "fact" is discovered. Literature buffs, on the other hand, are often frustrated because all the names, dates, and details get in the way of the story. It takes an extraordinary talent to create a historical novel that satisfies both types of readers.

Unfortunately, regional and local historical subjects are often shunned by such writers (and their publishers) in favor of events and themes of more universal appeal. As a result, many historical novels with local or regional themes are written by nonprofessional novelists and published by subsidy presses or by the authors. Promoted on a shoestring budget, they appeal to a limited audience and soon end up gathering dust on whatever shelf the librarians decide to place them. Two recent historical novels with Minnesota settings illustrate many of these problems.

Candles in the Wind, by Edris Probstfield Hack, a Moorhead native now living in California, has the Red River Valley as its setting. The central characters are based upon the author's grandparents, Randolph M. and Catherine Probstfield, early pioneers of the valley. In the fall of 1853, Michael Field, a German immigrant, participates in a buffalo hunt in the Red River Valley. He journeys to St. Paul to winter and meets Catherine, whom he eventually marries and takes to his claim in the valley. They battle the traditional pioneer hardships of Indian troubles, blizzards, grasshoppers, loneliness, and prairie fires. They drift apart when Michael is unable to settle down but reunite in the final pages. The story offers no new insight into the psychological stresses of the pioneering experience.

Mrs. Hack describes such historical events as the rivalry between settlers and the fur companies, the birth of steamboating on the Red River, the Sioux Uprising of 1862, and the advent of the railroad. Such well-known Minnesotans as Norman Kittson, James J. Hill, George Northrup, Anson Northrup, and Pierre Bottineau appear in the story as secondary and minor characters. One wonders if some of the humorous incidents involving these figures are based on fact (that problem, again), or were invented.

It is evident that Mrs. Hack has an idea of the elements necessary for a successful novel. The narrative emphasizes character rather than merely telling events. Michael and Catherine are plausible characters even though we have met them many times before. Unfortunately, this book is greatly diminished by poor writing and numerous copy errors. This is due in part to the fact that *Candles in the Wind* is author-published. Researching, writing, and publishing a book is no small achievement, and Mrs. Hack should be congratulated for her efforts. Editing one's own work, however, is not recommended in a self-publishing venture. To the author, every sentence, every word, is precious and impossible to part with. Objective editing would have streamlined bulky prose and eliminated errors in spelling, punctuation, and grammar, making this a much better book.

The principle setting for Ivan Kubista's *This Quiet Dust* is Frontenac, Minnesota, located on the Mississippi River in Goodhue County. The book was a Bicentennial project produced jointly by the author, the Old Frontenac Heritage Preservation Commission, and the Minnesota American Revolution Bicentennial Commission. Described on the jacket as "A Chronicle of Old Frontenac," the book traces the history of that village and its residents from the 1850s to the turn of the century. The central figure in Frontenac's history — and in the book — is Israel Garrard, eldest of four Garrard brothers of a wealthy Cincinnati family who settle in Frontenac. Under Israel's guidance, the village becomes a peaceful, utopian community with grand homes, beautiful churches, an academy, and a famous lakeside hotel. The author paints an almost too tranquil picture of life in the village. The title of the book, taken from an Emily Dickinson poem, sets an elegiac tone that pervades the book.

It appears that in telling his story the author seldom strayed from the path of history. Thus, *This Quiet Dust* has the tone and feeling of history rather than fiction and is less a novel than a dramatization of history. The narrative is powered by events rather than characters. Numerous history lectures are included in the text simply to update the reader on local, state, and national events before the next chapter involving the Garrard family begins. The characters are not characters in a literary sense, but historical profiles embroidered with thoughts and emotions as imagined by the author. A section of photographs of Frontenac scenes and portraits of the community's leading citizens nicely supplements the text and contributes to the feeling that one is reading a history.

These criticisms aside, this is a pleasant and informative book. The author surveys many of the same subjects as Mrs. Hack (such as Indian uprisings) but with greater historical insight. In particular, he does an excellent job of showing the reader the relationship between personal lives and state and national events.

These two books should be enjoyed by readers familiar with their historical backgrounds. However, one cannot avoid being somewhat pessimistic about their future. Since they are not "history" they are not likely to be used by researchers the way local histories are. As novels they are too limited by subject matter to appeal to a wide audience. An edited version of *Candles in the Wind* published in paperback and promoted as a historical romance might appeal to readers of that genre. It is apparent, however, that neither this book nor *This Quiet Dust*

was written with the best-seller lists in mind. Instead, they were written to memorialize a person, a place, and a time, which they have done. Unfortunately, by achieving this goal, they have restricted their markets to those who are familiar with the subject matter.

Most likely these novels will end up on bookshelves alongside the countless other local historical novels that have preceded them — to be occasionally dusted off and read by students of Minnesota literature or historians in search of background materials. It is sad that the effort and dedication that went into the research, writing, and publication of these books must suffer that kind of fate.

Reviewed by ROGER BARR, a writer of both history and fiction. A chapter from his novel *Autumn Leaves* will be published in the next issue of *Great River Review*.

The Country Railroad Station in America. By H. Roger Grant and Charles W. Bohi.

(Boulder, Colorado, Pruett Publishing Company, 1978. 183 p. Illustrations \$22.50.)

BY 1916, there were over 85,000 depots in the United States and another 5,000 in Canada. The majority, some 80,000 in the United States, were small stations that cost less than \$25,000 to build. These are the depots that form the popular image of the American railroad station, yet they have not been adequately studied. *The Country Railroad Station in America* is a welcome addition to the literature. It is perhaps the best book yet published on the small depot.

But some caveats are in order. Ignore the title of the book. It is really about the combination freight and passenger depot. Other types of country stations are not included. The authors emphasize the process of design standardization by railroad companies. Unique and unusual designs are avoided. There is a strong regional bias toward the Middle West. A major claim, to explore "the depot's over-all significance as community hub," is given a mere fifteen pages and little new is said. But do not let these warnings discourage you. The book is limited, but limited to the most common type of depot built in America.

The book's core is an architectural survey of the standardized combination depot. Combination stations were generally built in towns where the volume of business did not require separate freight and passenger depots. Most stations shared a floor plan that placed the agent's office in the middle of the building between the freight room and the passenger waiting room. The office nearly always had a trackside bay window from which the agent could assist in rail traffic control. Railroads adopted standard plans to lower costs. Depots often looked monotonously similar in town after town along a line. Even plans of different companies were quite similar. The result is a typical style so widespread that it has become the popular image of the depot.

There were variations. Local needs, both in amount of traffic and community desires for a unique station, led to adaptations of standard plans. Most lines had several sizes of depots. They often altered minor architectural features to make standard depots appear dissimilar. Roof styles, siding, and trim



THE MILWAUKEE ROAD depot at Fulda, Minnesota, is a two-story combination passenger and freight station built around 1900 to a standardized plan. The depot has an office, waiting rooms, and a freight room on the first floor and living quarters on the second floor.

differed from town to town. A few lines had unusual, but standard, plans of their own. The Burlington, Cedar Rapids, and Northern used a distinct two-story design in dozens of communities. There are regional depot distinctions based on custom, local architectural styles, and date of settlement.

The three chapters on depot design discuss the standard combination depot east of the Mississippi, west of the Mississippi, and in Canada. Chapter subdivisions are inconsistent. Eastern United States is divided into New England, the Northeast, the Old Northwest, and the South, while western United States is divided into a study of local granger lines and transcontinental lines. This inconsistency undermines the quality of the study and troubles the reader. Are stations of the Southwest not as regionally distinct as those of the South? Do granger-line depots differ from those of the nontranscontinental lines in the East? The single consistent theme is standardization.

By ignoring the chapter divisions, one is left with a catalog of from one to thirty depots constructed by each of more than fifty railroad companies. (Nineteen Minnesota stations are included among the 350 illustrations.) The authors call attention to significant architectural details and make comparisons between stations. Some of their architectural generalizations deserve a closer look. Do southern buildings reflect "an individualistic flavor, a long established southern mind-set?" Atlantic Coast Line depots frequently adjoin a siding rather than the main line. If this placement is arranged so that freight can be "leisurely unloaded," why is it peculiar to the South? Grant and Bohi make a number of unsubstantiated and seemingly incorrect statements.

The book suffers from omissions. The authors can be excused for ignoring some major rail lines. There are too many to cover in any one book. The lack of maps is frustrating. One wonders where the lines ran, especially the more obscure

ones. Because design decisions often came from corporate offices, a list of company headquarters would be useful. Also, the bibliography is much too brief. It is limited to books and articles specifically about depots, with nothing on more general railroad history or studies of specific lines. They mention several manuscript collections held by railroad companies, but do not mention the more accessible publicly held records in the collections of the Newberry Library and the Minnesota Historical Society.

The book falls short of a significant scholarly study of stations. Grant and Bohi base their analysis largely on visual evidence gathered from archives and their own extensive field work. In part, this approach is due to the scarcity of written records. Many railroads have destroyed their company records, but this is not always the case. In an essay written with Frank Vyzralek ("North Dakota's Railroad Depots: Standardization on the Soo Line," *North Dakota History*, Winter, 1975), Grant and Bohi have shown that they can do a masterful study of one line's depots when the documentation is available. They did not choose this approach in studying any line discussed in their book, including the Soo Line. The book is still better than most of the depot literature. It may be primarily a catalog, but it is an impressive catalog. I urge anyone interested in depot design to take a close look at the study.

Reviewed by THOMAS HARVEY, a research associate with the Minnesota Historical Society's state historic preservation office and a graduate student in the geography department of the University of Minnesota.

Tomorrow's Harvest: Thoughts and Opinions of Successful Farmers. By Hiram M. Drache.

(Danville, Ill., Interstate Printers and Publishers, 1978. Illustrations, xv, 296 p. \$10.95.)

THAT FARMERS before the present agricultural revolution lived dreary, poverty-stricken lives is not news. Battered by the vagaries of climate and market, harassed by insects and plant and animal diseases, short of capital, isolated from the waves of progress that accompanied the technological revolution, farmers lagged behind the advances made by other segments of American society.

Now, according to Hiram M. Drache, who is both a historian and a farmer, the future is bright, at least for those farmers acute enough to take advantage of large-scale enterprise. At first the author thought that large-scale farming depended upon technology, but after making a survey among a number of successful farmers here and in Europe, he found that the secret of successful farming was personal motivation. In following this lead he discovered five elements essential to successful farming that he calls the "five M's." They are Mate, Motivation, Management, Money, and Mechanization.

It is difficult to quarrel with this listing, especially with the importance he gives to the farm wife, usually a forgotten figure. There are some difficulties, though, with his thesis. How does one define farmers and farms? If one raises chickens in a Bronx warehouse, or manages a cranberry bog in New Jersey, or plants wild rice in northern Minnesota, or puts hives of honey

bees in a citrus grove, or harvests onions from a forty-acre field, or has a fish or fur farm in Colorado, should one be considered a farmer? And should the success of these enterprises depend upon the adoption of a four-wheel-drive tractor?

The difficulty of definitions will be greatly diminished if one defines a farmer as one who lives in the Middle West on a piece of land not less than 400 acres and who raises either cattle or hogs, or wheat or corn or soybeans, or who engages in dairying. This reviewer recognizes that the technological and scientific revolution in American agriculture has led to a golden age and that part of that golden age depends upon the "five M's" listed by Drache. However, the almost complete dependence of all kinds of farmers upon petroleum and petroleum products may lead to a catastrophe that will come with shattering suddenness and bring the golden age to a melancholy end.

Reviewed by RODNEY C. LOEHR, professor emeritus of history at the University of Minnesota, and the author of many book reviews and articles on agriculture and other subjects.

***The Work Ethic in Industrial America, 1850-1920.* By Daniel T. Rodgers.**
(Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 1978. 300 p. Cloth \$15.00.)

THIS BOOK is severely flawed. The most basic problem is the author's failure to specify what is meant by "work." Because the study addresses the transformation of attitudes toward work over time, this is a most serious handicap. The unfortunate result is that Rodgers employs several different definitions of work and uses them in such widely varying contexts that the word loses all precision of meaning. Another problem, again stemming from the failure of specification, is the author's insistence upon separating work from the socioeconomic context within which it acquires meaning. Work, or productive labor, is normally a part of a complex series of social and economic interactions which cannot be understood in isolation. What is especially lacking from Rodgers' perspective is an appreciation of the reciprocal of labor — reward. The oversight is very telling, for Rodgers assumes that work in itself is obnoxious. What he fails to consider is that people might find the absence of reward or incentive more loathsome than the presence of work itself. But the question cannot be resolved by viewing work apart from the system in which it has been shaped and been given value.

Rodgers also fails to take into account the possibility that the transformation he locates in the period of industrialization may have occurred during an earlier period, one characterized by agricultural rather than industrial development. In fact, much recent work in economic, sociological, and anthropological history indicates that the basic transformation of western life and attitudes to which Rodgers alludes was well under way during the long period of agricultural development prior to 1750. What is unique about the American experience is not, as

Rodgers assumes, the rapid industrialization of the economy and the resultant imposition of wages and factory labor upon an artisan class. What is unique is the very rapid growth and development of United States commercial agriculture in the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries. This agricultural system, even today an economic marvel, was not developed haphazardly by subsistence farmers, but was systematically developed because of the abundance of free land and the presence of a highly productive labor force that was part slave and part free. This economic development led not to the "moral primacy of work," as Rodgers would have it, but rather the moral primacy of an incentive system that materially rewarded increases in productivity and innovation. Long before industrialization became significant this was the motive force of the entire economic system.

To compound the book's problems, Rodgers restricts his units of analysis in curious ways. He writes that the focus of his work is "exclusively on the North and within that region primarily on the middle class. The choice needs acknowledgment but not, I think, apology." In fact, it needs neither, it needs explanation. To meet that need, Rodgers submits that it "was the North that set the pattern of economic life that has since rolled inexorably out from its first, Yankee stronghold." This is an assumption that ignores the importance of the American socioeconomic system as just that — a system. If the sections, or parts, of the system were qualitatively different it behooves the author to describe those differences and speculate on their origin. It may be, however, that the development of the Yankee North can only be understood in its relation to the development of the other areas.

The limitation of the study to the bourgeoisie is also dismaying, for Rodgers never clearly indicates what the middle class has to do with the development of attitudes toward work for the other classes of American society, assuming that he perceives such entities. Does he see a causal relationship between social attitudes about work and the seminal thinking of a disparate group of middle-class intellectuals? Or does he believe that nineteenth-century workers were deferential to their social betters in such matters? We are left in the dark. More appropriate might be the suggestion that the work ethic for the middle class was meant for the middle class alone and that it lost meaning as attempts were made to give it wider circulation and appeal. But an attempt to explain a class-specific ethic would require a far different study.

Unfortunately, Rodgers' book obfuscates more than it clarifies and in many ways does disservice to the history of ideas. It is, in fact, something of an anachronism, steeped as it is in the scholarly attitudes of a bygone era. It is most unfortunate that Rodgers' obvious talents and energies could not be applied to more productive enterprises. It is to be hoped that that is what the future holds.

Reviewed by Joseph Stipanovich, director of the Iron-Range Historical-Cultural Survey, a co-operative survey of the three Minnesota iron ranges by the Minnesota Historical Society and the Iron Range Resources and Rehabilitation Board

news & notes

THE ANNUAL all-day history conference of the Minnesota Historical Society will be held Saturday, October 27, at the Holiday Inn in downtown Minneapolis. Featured speaker at the noon luncheon will be Anne Morrow Lindbergh, famous author and widow of the noted aviator, author, scientist, and conservationist, Charles A. Lindbergh, who grew up in Minnesota near Little Falls. Various sessions throughout the morning and afternoon will center on twentieth-century historical subjects.

The society's annual meeting and reception will be held Friday evening, October 26, at the Minnesota State Capitol.

THE FOURTH North American Fur Trade conference will be held October 1-4, 1981, at Grand Portage, Minnesota, and at Old Fort William, Thunder Bay, Ontario. Jointly sponsored by several educational and historical institutions in the United States and Canada, the four-day event will coincide with the 250th anniversary of the landing of French explorer and fur trader Pierre Gaultier de Varennes, Sieur de la Vérendrye, at Grand Portage in August, 1731, and his subsequent wintering at Kamnistikwia. The location of the conference at two interpretive facilities closely linked with the North West Company, and the presentation of papers by authorities on the North American fur trade, promise to attract scholars, historians, and fur-trade buffs alike.

Subjects of the papers are expected to be wide-ranging — the French and North West Company periods, the Hudson's Bay Company, the American Fur Company, American Indian contributions, the significance of the Great Lakes region, and other aspects of the fur trade. Persons interested in giving a paper at the conference should write: 1981 Fur Trade Conference, the Minnesota Historical Society, 690 Cedar Street, St. Paul, Minnesota 55101. There will be opportunities at the conference to visit historic and scenic sites in both the Grand Portage and Old Fort William areas. Earlier fur trade conferences were held in St. Paul in 1965 and in Winnipeg in 1970 and 1978.

TIMOTHY J. GARVEY, a graduate stu-

dent in art history at the University of Minnesota, is winner of the Minnesota Historical Society's Solon J. Buck Award for the best article to appear in *Minnesota History* in 1978. His winning article, "The Duluth Homestead: A Successful Experiment in Community Housing," was published in the Spring, 1978, issue. Garvey, who was doing graduate work at the University of Minnesota, Duluth, when he wrote the article, is now a graduate student in art history at the University of Minnesota's main campus in Minneapolis. He is currently engaged in research work on his dissertation topic, Lee Lawrie, American sculptor.

The Buck Award prize money has been increased to \$400 this year — the amount that Garvey will receive. The Theodore C. Blegen Award for MHS staff members (not eligible for the Buck Award) has also been increased — to \$200 — and this year's winner is Carolyn Gilman, whose "Perceptions of the Prairie: Cultural Contrasts on the Red River Trails" appeared in the Fall, 1978, issue. Ms. Gilman, now an MHS exhibits researcher and writer, is coauthor, along with Deborah Stultz and Rhoda R. Gilman, of a new MHS book, *The Red River Trails: Oxcart Routes Between St. Paul and the Selkirk Settlement, 1820-1870*.

The award committee voted an honorable mention for the Blegen Award to Robert M. Frame III for his "Mills, Machines, and Millers: Minnesota Sources for Flour-Milling Research" that appeared in the Winter, 1978, issue. He is a research historian with the MHS state historic preservation office. This year's committee consisted of Hyman Berman, professor of history at the University of Minnesota, Carl H. Chrislock, professor of history at Augsburg College, and Kenneth Carley, editor of *Minnesota History*.

ONE OF THE MOST interesting things about *Hungry Gourmet: The Guide to Twin Cities Dining for Under Five Dollars* (Blue Earth, Minn., Piper Publications, 1978, illustrations, 224 p., paper \$4.95) is that, in addition to the usual descriptions of food served and credit cards accepted, the book includes a short "Historical Background" on each restaurant. Though often very sketchy, these sec-

tions make a valuable contribution to an already useful book.

GEORGE A. BRACKETT was an invaluable early Minneapolitan. A resident of the city from 1857 until his death in 1921, he worked as a contractor, railroad builder, mayor of Minneapolis, and in 1897 at the age of sixty, builder of a wagon road across the coastal mountain range at Skagway, Alaska. In addition, he found time and energy to be involved in a wide variety of charities, social programs, and community activities. In a time of "laissez faire" he was socially minded in a modern way.

Brackett's career has been discussed before in a number of articles in *Minnesota History*. Now it is detailed in a pamphlet called *The Story of George Augustus Brackett (1836-1921) and His Descendants: A Genealogy* (1978, illustrations, 50 p.), written and published by a grandson, the late Russell D. Brackett of Minneapolis and Excelsior. Besides recounting Brackett's career, this useful work traces the lives of Brackett's one daughter and his seven sons and their children.

ST. PAUL'S Landmark Center, formerly the Old Federal Courts Building, is one of the city's most impressive structures. This delightful pinkish granite building was dedicated in 1902 and was for many years the city's main post office and federal building. It appeared destined to be torn down in the 1960s, but it was saved, thanks to the efforts of many St. Paulites and others, including a group called Minnesota Landmarks. Now, after several years of restoration, the structure faces a bright future as an arts and community center.

Much of the history and architecture of the Landmark Center is described in a 1977 book, *A Landmark Reclaimed*, by Eileen Michels (St. Paul, Minnesota Landmarks, illustrations, 111 p., boxed \$7.50). Well written, and nicely designed and illustrated (in part with photos from the Minnesota Historical Society), the book ought to be a model for other building histories. Described in the early chapters are other federal buildings in St. Paul, leading up to the design and construction of the Landmark Center.

Subsequent chapters describe the

early history and use of the building. Of special note is a chapter by longtime St. Paul police reporter Nate N. Boinberg. Entitled "St. Paul and the Federal Building in the Twenties and Thirties," it deals with St. Paul's heyday as a haven for criminals and the many famous trials that took place in the federal courts during the period. The final chapters in the book discuss the deterioration and alteration of the building over the years, the fight to preserve it in the 1960s, and its restoration in the 1970s.

BRUCE M. WHITE

A MINNESOTA rite of spring is described by Matti Kaups in the Spring, 1978, issue of the *Journal of Popular Culture*. In an article called "Evolution of Smelt-O-Mania on Lake Superior's North Shore," Kaups discusses the development of smelt fishing from the introduction of the fish in Minnesota waters in the 1940s to its present popularity as a "game" fish. Kaups describes smelt fishing both as a natural phenomenon and as a cultural one. He describes in detail, and tries to explain, the spring madness that seizes many Minnesotans and sends them out along the North Shore's streams and rivers with dip nets in hand. Says Kaups: "The 'sport' is inexpensive, requires no special skills or talent, is accomplished without much physical exertion, rewards the practitioners handsomely, is subject only to a few state regulations, and is one of the few remaining 'free deals' left in the country."

ANYONE interested in postal history will find *The Post Offices of Minnesota* (Burtonsville, Md., 1978, 280 p., illustrations, maps, \$20.00) a valuable source. Through diligent research, authors Alan H. Patera and John S. Gallagher have uncovered considerable information about post-office names, dates of operation, first postmasters, and disposition of discontinued post offices. The data are arranged by county, but the authors have included an alphabetical list of post offices. Introductory matter explains how the book handles offices in counties that changed boundaries or names, what research materials were used, and when postal service began in Minnesota.

OF THE recent books on local history in Minnesota, *Three Towns Into One City: St. Cloud, Minnesota* (St. Cloud, St. Cloud Area Bicentennial Commission, [1978], 180 p., \$6.95) ranks among the more readable and informative. John J. Dominik, Jr., compiled and narrated the volume, while Ed L. Stockinger edited it. Chapters cover such topics as business

and industry, hospitals, newspapers, radio, the reformatory, the library, houses, churches, and municipal government. Dominik, an authority on Samuel C. Pandolfo and the Pan automobile, has included a chapter on the Pan, drawing on his special knowledge. One of the fascinating sections deals with the Great Depression years and explains St. Cloud's program to help the unemployed. Because residents had a philosophy of "looking out for their own," a public works program failed, but a private drive at the same time raised \$25,000 in one month. St. Cloud's mayor declared that the city did not need federal aid, and, indeed, the volunteer effort of its citizens carried St. Cloud through.

The explanation of the evolution of the system of public education is also very good. Few Minnesotans today understand the process of schools being transformed from nongraded to graded classrooms, of the introduction of high schools, and of the development of a diversified curriculum. The author goes on to treat the parochial schools, St. Cloud State and St. John's universities, and the College of St. Benedict. The final chapters on development of St. Cloud in the last ten years are interesting. They show how a town became a city and coped with problems of suburban drift and center city renewal. Too often a history deals with beginnings and fails to treat the recent past. That is not the case here, readers twenty years and more from now will have an excellent source on St. Cloud as it was in the 1970s.

There is no index, so readers will have to use a little imagination to deduce, for instance, that labor history is covered in the chapter on business and industry. Glanville Smith's map of St. Cloud unfortunately appears only on the dust jacket. The prose style ("patchwork triple-town of St. Cloud") is lively, the chapter headings imaginative, and the pictures well chosen.

SALLY RUBINSTEIN

EARLY IN 1943, Liz Forbes Dahlgren was sworn into the Women's Army Auxiliary Corps (WAAC, later WAC when "auxiliary" was dropped from the name) at Wabasha, Minnesota. At the time she was in her mid-thirties and was "trying to make a living with a hunting and fishing lodge on the Mississippi River." Before long she took basic training at Des Moines, Iowa, and on April 25, 1943, found herself with more than 150 other WAACS from all over the United States at Eglin Field, Florida, where the unit was attached to the Air Corps. The idea

was for the women to do supply, communication, photographic, radar, and other jobs to free men for combat duty during World War II. Nicknamed "Cyclone," Liz "worked in Weather which was interesting to her."

Now she has recounted her experiences in a chatty, amusing book, *We Were First: Eglin Field WW II WACS: We Heard the Guns at Wewak* (Brownsville, Texas, 1977, 152 p., illustrations, \$7.50). There are many anecdotes about the women going about their duties, enjoying recreation, and finally serving overseas in many cases. The book has many thumbnail sketches of the author's WAC associates and describes the numerous postwar reunions, including one in Minneapolis in 1951. The book can be obtained from the author, Apartment 1701, 1225 Central Boulevard, Brownsville, Texas 78520.

THE MINNESOTA Chippewa Tribe has taken an important step in teaching its version of its organization and history to students and other interested people. It has developed a curriculum project whose materials have been pilot-tested by schools at Waubesa, Cass Lake, and Onamia. Key components of the course are two publications — *Minnesota Chippewa Tribal Government: Student Handbook* (1978, 201 p., illustrations, \$7.95) and *Minnesota Chippewa Tribal Government: Teachers Guide* (1978, 154 p., \$7.50) — both available from the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe, Cass Lake, Minn. 56633, the Mille Lacs Indian Museum, Star Route, Onamia, Minn. 56359; or the Minnesota Historical Society Museum Shop and Bookstore, 690 Cedar Street, St. Paul, Minn. 55101. The handbook also can be obtained in sets of twenty-five for \$150 including one copy of the teachers' guide.

Listed as curriculum developers are William Schaaf and Charles Robertson. Among individuals and organizations credited are several staff members of Bemidji State University and of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe; the Minnesota Historical Society (largely for photographs used); and Carl Gawboy, Susan Clark, and Mary Reich for artwork.

The handbook's text begins with a discussion of the traditional Chippewa tribal government "before contact with European people and shortly thereafter." It also deals with the totemic division of the tribe, lists treaty signers by bands, and includes biographies of chiefs like Hole-in-the-Day I and II, "Old Bug," and John Flat(te). Other chapters discuss Chippewa treaties (several

are printed in full), the Indian Reorganization Act of 1934 and the establishment of the Minnesota Chippewa Tribe of six member reservations, the structure and powers of the contemporary tribal government (including the revised constitution and bylaws), and federal legislation and policy affecting the Chippewa tribe. A final chapter describes programs and services of the tribe.

The guide provides teachers with basic information on suggested student activities, student tests, and a listing of suggested reading materials.

PHOTOGRAPHS, elevation drawings, and floor plans of twenty-eight small depots built during the last 100 years in the United States and Canada are featured in *Railroad Station Planbook*, edited by Harold A. Edmonson and Richard V. Francaviglia (Milwaukee, Kalmbach Publishing Co., 1977, 96 p., \$4.00). The stations are arranged by function and purpose into seven categories: flag, whistle, and milk stops, combination passenger-freight stations, upstair-downstair stations, freight stations, stations at junctions and diamonds, commuter stations, and small city stations.

Written with the model railroader in mind (most plans are in HO scale), the comments on architectural style, construction, and location make the book a worth-while addition to the depot fan's bookshelf. It is one of the best available overviews of small depots. There are all sorts of tidbits scattered throughout the text. The standard paint schemes of several companies are included. Four modern (post-World War II) stations are illustrated, and it is nice to see the oft-ignored newer depots get some attention. One converted section house is illustrated. The detailed construction information is invaluable. There is even a scale drawing of an unusual single-blade semaphore. The most likely place to locate the book is at a hobby shop. At \$4.00 the *Railroad Station Planbook* is a bargain.

THOMAS HARVEY

A NEW HISTORY of the Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls, Minnesota, by Sister Mary Assumpta Ahles — *In the Shadow of His Wings* (St. Paul, North Central Publishing Co., 1977, 355 p., illustrations, \$12.50) — is a competent example of institutional narrative history with a very pleasant bonus. The Franciscan Sisters were first established in Belle Prairie, Minnesota, in 1872 by their enigmatic founder, Mother Mary Ignatius Hayes. Their first mission was subjected to enormous trials through at-

tacks by unsympathetic priests, the burning of their convent and school, and their apparent abandonment by their mother superior. With great perseverance, several of the sisters labored to establish their convent in Little Falls under diocesan supervision. When that was accomplished, their institute began to flourish until today they have become an important teaching, missionary, and nursing order.

The bonus that the reader receives from this history is the pleasure of making the acquaintance of the author, Sister Mary Assumpta. It would have been easy to turn this account of her order into a prim, dull, but safe description of buildings and administration. The author has not permitted that to happen. Instead she has allowed her own very evident sympathy, curiosity, and uncertainty to be expressed. She is a good historian. Extensive archival research and many years of personal reflection are abundantly apparent in the narrative. I find it most refreshing that she has not attempted to write a neutral, muffled, impersonal work. Warnings against bias have often been turned by unimaginative historians into justifications for extinguishing their own points of view. That has not happened here, and the reader will certainly bless Sister Mary Assumpta for that. I further suspect that the book will be well read by future generations of religious in the order and that it will provoke many discussions. This is a work which has enriched the history of Minnesota and of religion in America.

ERNEST R. SANDEEN

BARNs ARE America's vernacular architecture. They symbolize the agrarian past and values of a nation that reluctantly moved to town. Each section of the country has its own styles of barns, and each is as indigenous as the local crops and the farmers' speech. Farm buildings of Wisconsin, like those of other states, reflect the various peoples that settled there and the occupations they pursued. Between the covers of *Barns of Wisconsin* (Madison, Tamarack Press, 1977, \$10.00) readers will discover fine prose, superb water color and pencil pictures about the barns, occupations, and values that are disappearing from the American landscape.

Author Jerry Apps and illustrator Allen Strang (an architect) were reared on farms in parts of Wisconsin that are, perhaps, richer in landscape than soil fertility. They acknowledge their debts to the past and get about the business of portraying barns and rural life without undue sentimentality. Neither Apps nor

Strang is a trained historian, and yet their work carries the authority that arises from study and mastery of a subject — that is, scholarship. In Strang's words, *Barns of Wisconsin* is an attempt "to produce a record of a most important part of our Wisconsin legacy: the farm barns and outbuildings of our state during its developing years."

Readers may wish to compare this volume with Eric Sloane's *An Age of Barns* (1966). Both introduce the reader to the mysteries of barn design and building, both are superbly illustrated and cogently written. But unlike Sloane's work, *Barns of Wisconsin* is about individual barns in definite places where the originals may be seen and are still used.

Wisconsin's barns reflect several dominant ethnic and architectural strains and distinct purposes. Wisconsin is blessed with English bay barns whose central doors open on a threshing floor flanked by haymows, two-story Finnish barns with cattle on the ground level and lofts full of hay, and elaborate German bank barns built into hillsides so farmers could drive loaded hayricks into the lofts above the stalls. The authors frequently digress from the techniques and details to tell the story behind the buildings. For example, few barns exist from the 1850s and 1860s. Until the 1870s Wisconsin farmers depended on wheat as a cash crop. When disease, insects, and soil exhaustion ruined crops in the late '70s, farmers turned to other enterprises, including dairying. Until the 1880s dairying was a one- or two-cow affair for home consumption and considered "woman's work." After wheat failed, farmers turned to dairying, but only after they overcame the social stigmas attached to "woman's work." By 1900 Wisconsin was a leading dairying state, a leader in co-operatives and cheese factories, and the home of the industry magazine, *Hoard's Dairymen*.

Although popularly written and illustrated and relatively short (143 pages), *Barns of Wisconsin* packs a lot of information backed by a respectable set of footnotes. It is a useful compendium for any student of rural life, for it contains details not found in standard texts. The volume will also travel easily in good company with state maps and guidebooks. The exact locations of the illustrated barns are given — a positive inducement for scholar and layman to spend a Sunday outing studying the relics of social history before they, and the life they symbolize, change beyond recall.

R. NEWELL SEARLE

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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