

# BOOK REVIEWS

*The Explorations of the La Vérendryes in the Northern Plains, 1738–43.* By G. Hubert Smith, edited by W. Raymond Wood.

(Lincoln, University of Nebraska Press, 1980. 160 p. Illustrations. \$13.95.)

ONE OF THE GREAT SAGAS of eighteenth-century North American history is the story of the explorations of Pierre Gaultier de Varennes, Sieur de la Vérendrye, and his sons. With very little help (and some hindrance) from their government, these indomitable men of New France established a string of forts stretching westward from Lake Superior and also explored the interior of the continent. Of particular interest to Minnesotans is the La Vérendryes' frequent use of the border route from Grand Portage to Lake of the Woods. Their principal base, Fort St. Charles, located on an island in Lake of the Woods, is one of Minnesota's major historic sites.

This book focuses on the explorations of the La Vérendryes on the prairies farther west. In 1738–39 the elder La Vérendrye led an expedition westward from Lake of the Woods to what is now Portage la Prairie, Manitoba, and then southwesterly to the Missouri River, where he visited Indian people he called "Mantannes." In 1742–43 two of La Vérendrye's sons continued the explorations in the Dakotas and eventually reached the Big Horn Mountains in Wyoming. This volume endeavors to trace the routes of the 1738–39 and 1742–43 expeditions.

The book sets the stage with an excellent recounting of the history of the La Vérendryes to 1738. This is followed by a translation of the 1738–39 expedition journal and the author's interpretation of it. Subsequent chapters do the same for the journal of the 1742–43 expedition.

Early historians, notably Francis Parkman, concluded that the "Mantanne" villages the La Vérendryes visited were actually the Mandan villages near present-day Bismarck, North Dakota. Later, Orin G. Libby, then secretary of the State Historical Society of North Dakota, contended that the explorers actually visited the Hidatsa rather than the Mandan Indians and that the site of the visits was many miles upstream from the Mandan villages. On the strength of Libby's conclusion, the Vérendrye National Monument was established at the upstream site near the former town of Sanish in Mountrail County, North Dakota.

When the Garrison Dam was constructed, the National Park Service was faced with the prospect that the dam would flood portions of the Vérendrye National Monument. The service commissioned a study of the La Vérendrye explorations in the Dakotas. The result was a contract between the service and

G. Hubert Smith, an archaeologist and author who was long associated with the Minnesota Historical Society. Smith's report was completed in April, 1951. He concluded that Libby was in error, that the La Vérendryes had visited the Mandan villages and not the Hidatsa, that the villages were in the Bismarck area and not farther upstream, and that the explorers had never visited the site of the national monument. On the basis of Smith's report, the monument was disestablished and the land conveyed to the state of North Dakota. Today, most of the former monument lies beneath the waters impounded by the Garrison Dam.

Smith's report to the National Park Service forms the basis of the present book. The manuscript, which remained unpublished from 1951 to the present, was edited by W. Raymond Wood (Smith died in March, 1972). The volume makes an important contribution to the study of the La Vérendrye explorations. The author presents his analysis and conclusion in a scholarly, straightforward, and convincing manner. I cannot recommend this book too highly to anyone interested in the heroic La Vérendrye family.

*Reviewed by CURTIS L. ROY, a Minneapolis attorney who is a student of fur-trade literature. He is the newly elected president of the Minnesota Historical Society.*

*The Iowa Catalog: Historic American Buildings Survey.* By Wesley I. Shank.

(Iowa City, University of Iowa Press, 1979, xiii, 158 p. Illustrations. Cloth \$12.50, paper \$8.95.)

MORE THAN one-third of the historically and architecturally important buildings recorded by the Historic American Buildings Survey (HABS) since its creation by the federal government in 1934 have been demolished. Minnesota, with its complement of nearly fifty HABS buildings, has fared better than most states. (In fairness to the juggernaut of Twin Cities urban renewal, however, it should be noted that this is more a reflection of the buildings chosen in the 1930s for recording than of a consistent sympathy in the state for historic buildings. A raft of structures, including the jewel discarded by Minneapolis — the Metropolitan Building — were not recorded and, as a result, are not reflected in the percentages.) Recorded buildings in Minnesota that have been demolished, such as St. Paul's three-story stone custom house at Fifth and Wabasha and its Gothic Revival Episcopal Church at Twelfth and Cedar, at least survive in the beautiful HABS drawings and photographs.

Ephemeral structures such as the logging camp recorded near Ely in 1934 have also found a permanency in the HABS record.

Wesley Shank has compiled a useful catalog of the 124 HABS sites in Iowa. In a serviceable introduction he describes the development of the state's architecture from log cabins to skyscrapers. The photographs and drawings accompanying his essay are a delight to the eye and an invitation to tour the state. The Woodbury County Courthouse in Sioux City, which owes much of its design to George Elmslie of the Minneapolis firm of Purcell and Elmslie, seems by itself to merit an Iowa excursion. Its extensive use of sculpture, murals, bas relief, and colored-glass windows and skylights is outstanding. In another section of the catalog, Shank describes each HABS structure and lists its address, type of construction, and date of recording.

Because most of the structures in the book were recorded in the 1930s, the catalog understandably reflects a fifty-year-old perception of historical and architectural significance. The first log house, the first brick house, the first jail, the most flamboyant example of each major architectural style, the largest, and the oddest caught the eye of the early HABS surveyors. Missing almost entirely is evidence of Iowa's agricultural heritage, its industrial structures, and its small-town commercial buildings. Shank prudently points out that the catalog is by its nature only a guide to materials in the HABS collection and not a definitive listing of "worthwhile historic architecture."

The "survey of styles" which accompanies the catalog, and was written for it by a local architectural historian, has no similar excuse. From this style guide one would assume that the only structures in Iowa, at least those with "architecture," are large and expensive urban homes. Farm buildings are unrecognized; main-street structures appear from the guide to be nonexistent; industry seems never to have reached the state. Iowans must wonder whether "architecture" has, for the most part, passed them by. The suggestion is regrettable and untrue.

*Reviewed by CHARLES SKRIEF, assistant state historic preservation officer and legal counsel for historic preservation in the society's state historic preservation office (SHPO).*

***Prairie Border Country: Twin Cities to Rochester.* By Cotton Mather and Ruth Hale.**

(Prescott, Wisconsin, Trimble Press, 1980. 104 p. Maps, illustrations. \$6.00.)

FELLOW TRAVELERS, attention! On days of autumnal glory when fields and hills are maroon and gold, or during the greeneries of summer, do you like to course across rolling prairies to the spectacular beauties of the driftless region of southeastern Minnesota and then return along the Mississippi River with its borders of towering crags and battlements? Have you often thought of how a really good guidebook would add to your enjoyment?

Here is such a guidebook, the third in a series that includes *St. Croix Border Country* (1968) and *Upper Coulee Country*

(1975). Eventually three more will appear, and all will promptly become collector's items. The latest volume was prepared by two professional geographers who know and love the region — Cotton Mather of the University of Minnesota-Minneapolis and prime mover of the Pierce County Geographical Society (the "nation's oldest," located at Prescott), and Ruth Hale of the University of Wisconsin-River Falls.

This guide takes one from the center of the Mississippi River bridge at Hastings (or one can go backwards; mileages are given in both directions) south through Miesville, Vasa, and Cannon Falls to Kasson, then east to Rochester, then north to Zumbro Falls and east to Wabasha. From there the traveler has a choice: cross the Mississippi to Wisconsin and go north to Prescott before returning to Minnesota, or follow the river road on the Minnesota side to Lake City, Red Wing, and back to Hastings.

Cities, towns (ghost and live), hamlets, even farms have their past, present, and future examined in comments, witty, wise, and sometimes devastating. Curious and unusual sights, such as the 20,000 "undocumented" Canada geese that winter on Silver Lake in Rochester or the beauty of the parkway in Lake City, are brought to the reader's attention, and the passing terrain is ably described in understandable terms.

The book benefits from good maps (cartography by Sandra Haas) and numerous black-and-white photographs with sometimes amusing captions. One reads: "Headlands protruding into Lake Pepin. These promontories are often compared to the Rhine region by those who have not seen both." And another: "Maiden Rock. The three bars are on the right; the mortuary is on the left."

If you should become faint from hunger while traveling and worry lest soul and body might fly apart from your famished condition, consult the "Gastronomic Guide" in the back of the volume. The restaurants listed will restore bloom to your cheeks. If you pant for more information, dip into the bibliography with its knowing assessments of various works consulted. The authors also have appended tables on population and climate and suggest that you "consult them before departure if you are inclined to be cold and lonely."

*Reviewed by RODNEY C. LOEHR, professor emeritus of history at the University of Minnesota and a frequent book reviewer for Minnesota History and other magazines and for newspapers.*

***War Within and Without.* By Anne Morrow Lindbergh.**  
(New York, Harcourt Brace Jovanovich, 1980. 471 p. \$14.95.)

TEN YEARS AGO Charles A. Lindbergh published his *War-time Journals* in which he described his work with the noninterventionist America First movement and his later World War II experiences as a civilian test pilot and consultant. Now, in *War Within and Without*, the fifth volume of her published diaries and letters, Anne Morrow Lindbergh adds to the record of these difficult years. As Mrs. Lindbergh remarks in her introduction, "My own diary is frankly biased. It could hardly be otherwise. It gives a subjective view of the temper of the

times and the personality of one of the chief protagonists of the debate."

This book, unlike the more dispassionate *Wartime Journals*, shows something of how difficult it was for the Lindberghs, perhaps the world's most admired couple only a few years before, to accept the waves of criticism that swept over them following their America First appearances. It was particularly hard for them to face losing their many European friends and to realize that they might never again be welcome in France or England. "C says we will probably never see Illic [their island home off the coast of France] again," she writes. "The French will not forgive him. Of course I must face that — and I understand it — and so does he." Yet the Lindberghs sincerely believed that the United States was unprepared for war and must remain at peace. On the day of the fall of Paris, Anne Lindbergh wrote, "We have no planes, no tanks, and no army to send. We are more unprepared than France herself. But no Frenchman will ever believe this."

Anne Lindbergh makes clear in this book that her sympathies, and those of her husband, were with the Allied cause, and she writes movingly of the "terrible struggle that goes on eternally between your heart which is in Europe and your mind which is trying to be American and determine what is the best course for this country." In spite of her own doubts about her courage and her hurt at being labeled Nazi and traitor, she followed her husband's lead in working to keep America neutral and to urge a negotiated peace to avoid the continued destruction of Europe.

There are interesting glimpses of other America First leaders — Phillip La Follette, Senator Burton K. Wheeler, and Norman Thomas, the American socialist leader who shows up as what we would today call a male chauvinist — and of other public figures of the time, most notably French aviator-author Antoine de Saint-Exupery, philosopher Alfred North Whitehead, and lawyer-diplomat John Foster Dulles, amusingly summed up as an old intellectual who "will never set the world on fire."

Like Anne Lindbergh's other books, *War Within and Without* is not simply a record of personal reaction to public events. It is also the story of a relationship between two gifted individuals and a story of a woman struggling with her work, her family, and her public obligations in a time before the women's movement gave much support to women's work outside the roles of wife and mother. Charles Lindbergh's continuing support of his wife's work (indeed he actively urged her to write and tried in every way possible to provide an environment in which she could work without distraction) is one of many ways in which he refused to accept the conventional wisdom of the time and instead acted on his own convictions regarding the value of individual accomplishment.

Because it allows a comparison of husband's and wife's accounts of the same years (1939–1944), this is perhaps the most revealing of Anne Lindbergh's diaries. "I wanted to show the unwritten side of his *Wartime Journals*," she explains, "to say the things he could never say." In this she has added immeasurably to future understanding of the Lindbergh role in one of the great antiwar struggles of this century.

*Reviewed by* NANCY EUBANK, interpretation program manager in the Minnesota Historical Society's field services, historic sites, and archaeology division.

*Hamline University: A History.* By David W. Johnson. (St. Paul, North Central Publishing Company, 1980. xiii, 304 p. Illustrations. \$16.95.)

AMONG MINNESOTA'S many resources are nearly a dozen and a half flourishing, privately founded, accredited, residential liberal arts colleges. Their life-enriching influences — books, lectures, musicals, dramatics, art shows, athletic events — are legion.

In this history of Methodist-founded Hamline, the author deals with the oldest of these institutions of higher learning. Interestingly enough, this volume is the college's first full-scale published history. In 1954 distinguished historian Grace Lee Nute, long-time faculty member at Hamline (where she succeeded Theodore C. Blegen) and former head of the Minnesota Historical Society's manuscripts division, wrote a centennial history of the St. Paul college, but the document was never published. Happily, David W. Johnson, who is a history professor at Hamline, had access to the Nute work and was thereby able to benefit from its facts and interpretations.

Chartered by the territorial legislature in 1854, when Methodists in the region numbered less than 300, Hamline opened a preparatory (or high school) department in Red Wing later in the same year. For the next decade and a half, despite economic depression and the Civil War, the fledgling institution survived. During this time it added a college department, awarded diplomas in 1859 to the state's first two college graduates, contributed almost 200 teachers to the public schools, and attracted a total attendance of roughly 1,500.

For a variety of reasons, however, Hamline's operations in Red Wing were suspended in 1869, and for the next eleven years the institution in limbo struggled to find a new home and to make a new start. These goals were achieved on September 22, 1880, when classes resumed in a new five-story building on the present site in St. Paul. From that day until now, under more than a dozen presidents, the reborn adolescent has grown in size, prestige, and value. It has done this in spite of numerous and complex problems such as financial stringency, war, and an identity crisis of how to relate to its Methodist parent and sponsor. Hamline has, in the words of Johnson, "evolved into a sophisticated, cosmopolitan institution with mature ties to its founding denomination."

His book, the author tells us, "is not a chronicle," nor "a filiopietistic rendering of the past." Rather, he has attempted to produce an interpretation, which seeks to place Hamline "squarely within its cultural context, examine themes unique to the Hamline experience, and investigate questions bearing upon the nature of private higher education in the United States." He has succeeded well in reaching his first two goals, but the third has eluded him to a considerable degree. Neither the government nor the National Defense Education Act of 1958, as examples, is listed in the book's index.

Nevertheless, this is a first-rate institutional history which, as a well-known sports commentator is wont to say, "tells it like it is." Blemishes are not covered over, and achievements are not exaggerated. Johnson knows what constitutes a liberal arts college of high quality, and by implication and example he conveys that knowledge to the reader.

The volume, beautifully produced by the North Central Publishing Company, is well written and possessed of the usual

scholarly paraphernalia. There are also a number of illustrations. Of human interest is the dust-jacket design done by a sixteen-year-old artist who lost the use of his right arm and hand in an accident and was forced to learn how to draw with his left hand.

If I had my way, Johnson's history would be read by all members of the Hamline family and by potential students and supporters. They and the college would both benefit.

*Reviewed by* MERRILL E. JARCHOW, *historian-in-residence at Carleton College. He is the author of Private Liberal Arts Colleges in Minnesota: Their History and Contributions, published in 1973 by the Minnesota Historical Society.*

***The Potawatomi: Keepers of the Fire.* By R. David Edmunds.**

(Norman, University of Oklahoma Press, 1978. xii, 367 p. Maps, illustrations. \$19.95.)

THIS SCHOLARLY, well-written volume surveys the history of the Potawatomi people from their earliest contact with non-Indians in the seventeenth century to their removal from the Great Lakes plains to small reserves in Kansas and Oklahoma during the nineteenth century.

The first chapter discusses their precontact culture (tribal organization, economy, religion, housing, dress, and the like) and describes their relationships with the colonial traders and missionaries of New France. Subsequent chapters deal with the Potawatomi wars against non-Indians, interspersed with feuds with Indian neighbors, from the American Revolution to the War of 1812. The final chapters outline main events in their history from the Treaty of Ghent (1815) to about mid-century.

Pressured by United States government officials and threatened by increasing white immigrant population, the Potawatomi Indians bargained away aboriginal territories, spread out as band groups, became reliant upon federal annuities, and faced subjection to the "civilization plan" drawn up in that period by the new United States Office of Indian Affairs. After it became evident they would not adapt quickly to the habits of non-Indian society, the Potawatomi people were in-

structed by federal officers to move to remote places beyond the Mississippi River, where they could prepare for United States citizenship at a slower pace. Some took refuge in Canada to escape this fate, but most of the Potawatomi accepted forced removal onto Kansas and Oklahoma prairie lands, where they and their descendants have remained to the present.

The early contact history of the Potawatomi was not unique; their experiences approximated those of most Middle Western tribes that dealt with non-Indians in the United States and Canada prior to the middle of the nineteenth century. Professor Edmunds' description of these experiences is not extraordinary; it reports in chronological order the main events in Potawatomi contacts with white groups that appeared in the Old Northwest between 1650 and 1850 and contains no interpretations except occasional expressions of sympathy that the American Indians obviously deserve. Accordingly, readers who have kept up with literature on Indian-white contact history will find neither new nor surprising information in this volume.

The book nevertheless contains features that place it a cut above other books dealing with relations between Indians and whites. It is more detailed, and more reliable, than many other books that have appeared because the author has drawn information from a great variety of primary and secondary sources. It blends the story of Indian-white relations with descriptions of westering pioneer movements and explanations of federal Indian policies, which Edmunds has come to understand through many years of study about the American frontier.

Because of these features, *The Potawatomi* is recommended as essential reading for several groups. Scholars with interest in most facets of the domestic history of the United States should add it to their personal libraries as a reference source. Students of American frontier history should review its contents for instruction about intercultural relations as well as for knowledge about the application of federal Indian policies at the grass roots. History buffs should use it as a means of broadening their general understanding of the contest for land and the conflict of cultures that accompanied the establishment and early growth of the United States.

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



# NEWS & NOTES

PREHISTORIC Minnesota Indian pottery has long been a mystery to most Minnesotans — even to the growing numbers of them who as amateur archaeologists avidly collect Indian artifacts. The mystery has been swept away by *A Handbook of Minnesota Prehistoric Ceramics*, compiled and edited by Scott F. Anfinson of the Minnesota Historical Society staff (Occasional Publications in Minnesota Anthropology No. 5, St. Paul, 1979, 234 p., paper \$12.50 postpaid).

The book contains ceramic definitions, descriptions, illustrations, and maps relating to the two dozen currently known pottery types in Minnesota. Eight Minnesota archaeologists wrote the descriptions of the pottery types, and another (Lee S. Radzak) provided lavish illustrations. This comprehensive compilation of ceramic data brings together under one cover the essential information concerning a fundamental aspect of regional archaeology. It is intended to be a guide for students and professionals in the identification and description of Minnesota prehistoric pottery. The illustrations alone should enable almost anyone to identify and understand better the significance of broken pieces of Indian pottery that can be found over most of the state. The volume can be ordered from the Minnesota Archaeological Society, Bldg. No. 27, Fort Snelling, Minn. 55111.

JON GJERDE, Ph.D. candidate in history at the University of Minnesota and part-time researcher at the Minnesota Historical Society, has written "The Effect of Community on Migration: Three Minnesota Townships," for the October, 1979, issue of the *Journal of Historical Geography*. Focusing on three townships in Renville County in the Minnesota River Valley, Gjerde used state censuses and plat maps, church and county histories, oral interviewing, and county tax and land transfer records, among other sources, to look at Norwegian, Irish, Swedish, Finnish, and German settlement in the area. In particular he investigated the role that church and

ethnic group membership played in community formation and stability, primarily as measured by migration from the three townships during two ten-year periods, 1885-1895 and 1895-1905. He concluded that, despite the contentions of revisionist students of American immigration and migration, economics was the primary motivating force behind the mobility decisions of old stock Americans and immigrants alike, and community membership played an important role in immigrants' lives.

A "HISTORY of the S. B. Foot Tanning Company" of Red Wing by Madeline Angell Johnson (1980, 210 p.), typed and appropriately bound in leather, was recently presented to the society. It traces the activities of three generations of the family, beginning with the establishment of a store in Red Wing by Silas B. Foot in 1857. He erected a tannery in 1872 in order to assure "a reliable supply of leather for the manufacture" of shoe pacs, boots, and shoes sold by the store. In 1908, according to the author, a new, up-to-date tannery was built by Silas' son, and today his descendants continue to operate one of the largest tanneries in the United States. Essentially a company history, the book supplies much new information gleaned from the firm's records and a wide range of other sources to illuminate the story of one of the state's long-lived firms.

USEFUL reference volumes from the Arno Press *Scandinavians in America* series are E. Walfred Erickson's *Swedish-American Periodicals: A Selective and Descriptive Bibliography* (New York, 1979, 144 p., \$14.00) and Marion Tuttle Marzolf's *The Danish Language Press in America* (New York, 1979, 276 p., \$20.00). Erickson supplements earlier efforts to document the Swedish press in America by supplying information on where issues of each listed publication may be found. He includes ninety-two titles published in Minneapolis or St. Paul.

Marzolf's work, her 1972 doctoral

dissertation, analyzes the role of the Danish-American press in immigrant life and assimilation. Her content surveys of several major papers demonstrate changing editorial emphasis and the "ethnization" of the press. She also describes the "newspaper factory" of Minneapolis publisher Christian Rasmussen (1852-1926).

FAMILY AND LOCAL HISTORY are gently intertwined in *Fire on the Prairie, Memories of Lac Qui Parle*, by Ray P. Herriges (Madison, Minn., 1980, \$9.95). With fine attention to detail, the author recounts the growth and fortunes of his large family and, not coincidentally, of his county from the 1890s through 1935. The scope and variety of the book are wide, and the array of anecdotes makes delightful reading. From the "county Civil War" that almost happened to schoolboy pranks and devastating fires, the rhythm of daily life in western Minnesota unfolds with clarity and humor. Well-labeled illustrations are an added touch to this successful combination of personal insight and public record. The book is available from Heritage Press, 322 Fourth Avenue, Madison, Minn. 56256.

ANNE KAPLAN

THE AMAZINGLY VARIED activities of the Civilian Conservation Corps (CCC), which enlisted almost four million men during its nine-year existence from 1933 to 1942, are described and pictured in *The Tree Army* (Missoula, Mont., Pictorial Histories Publishing Co., 1980, 160 p.). According to author Stan Cohen, Minnesota contributed more than 84,000 men and had in operation an average of fifty-one CCC camps a year. The men living in them planted trees in Superior and Chippewa National Forests in Minnesota, fought forest fires during the drouth of the 1930s, constructed lookout towers, and stocked fish in the state's lakes. In a brief but helpful text and a rich array of photographs, assembled with the help of the National Association of Civilian Conservation Corps Alumni, the book depicts these

and other activities carried on by the more than 4,000 army-run camps throughout the United States.

Their work projects extended far beyond the tree-planting alluded to in the book's title to encompass the building of dams and other flood and erosion control devices, ski areas and swimming pools, walls, fences, roads, and shelters and museums in state and national parks. As some photos show, the corps also restored historic sites, reproduced colonial furniture, and recovered the bodies of drowning victims. It also had its own comic strip and camp magazines. And now it also has its own historic site in Minnesota's Chippewa National Forest. There, a camp of seventeen buildings completed in 1935 has been preserved and listed on the National Register of Historic Places. Ironically, the camp is not pictured in this pictorial history of an important New Deal program of the Great Depression years of the 1930s.

POET FREYA MANFRED, daughter of novelist Frederick Manfred of Luverne, Minn., has published a new collection of her poems under the title of *American Roads* (Woodstock, N.Y., Overlook Press, 1979, \$7.95). At least two of the poems stem explicitly from her Minnesota roots — "Woman at Seven Corners, Minneapolis, Minnesota," and "My Basketball Brother versus Windom," which provides a telling description of her tall father at a small-town game. ("Everyone stared at mother and me/ as if we had/ brought an Alaskan black bear/ into the gym/ without a chain.")

AN ENGLISHMAN with several journeys through the Boundary Waters Canoe Area of northern Minnesota under his belt has written a novel about Ojibway life in the area in the 1830s. Ewan Clarkson's *The Many-Forked Branch* (New York, 1980, 144 p., \$10.95) is a handsomely designed and illustrated adventure tale.

RECENTLY VOTED certificates of commendation "for producing a documentary film on logging, using historical film footage" were Carl Henrikson, Jr., of Lindstrom, Minn., and the Minnesota Historical Society. They were cited by the national awards committee of the American Association for State and Local History during deliberations on September 4-6 prior to the 1980 annual meeting of the AASLH in New Orleans. The film — "The Last Log Drive on the Little Fork" — features

rare footage that Henrikson shot in 1937 on that river in northern Minnesota. Especially effective are the dramatic scenes of lumberjacks breaking logjams during the Little Fork drive and closeups of them eating a typical lumberjack meal and conversing.

CZECH AND MINNESOTA FOODS are the subjects of *Favorite Recipes of Sokol Minnesota* (St. Paul, 1980, 400 p.). The book includes what one might expect from the two cultures — twenty-one *kolacky* recipes and numerous hot dishes — as well as some surprises, like *sekanice* (veal loaf for a Czech Easter breakfast) and shrimp and wild rice casserole. Brief sections by Zora Chrislock describe some Czech culinary customs. The cookbook is available for \$7.00, plus \$1.00 for handling, from Sokol Minnesota, 381 Michigan St., St. Paul, Minn. 55102.

IN A BOOKLET entitled *The Leaven* (St. Paul, St. Paul's Priory, 1980, 71 p., \$3.95), Sister Claire Lynch recounts experiences of Benedictine nuns who migrated in 1862 from Pennsylvania to Shakopee, where they founded St. Gertrude's Convent. The community, begun inauspiciously in a barn converted into a convent, soon demonstrated the breadth of its mission as the sisters established an academy in Shakopee, taught in parish schools there as well as in Carver and Belle Plaine, acquired a farm for the care of orphans, and founded an orphans' home in St. Paul. Testifying to their cultural impact on the pioneer towns in Minnesota was the academy's curriculum, which offered, in addition to basic subjects, such refinements as instruction in French, German, Latin, harp, organ, guitar, oil painting, pearl painting, and portrait landscape in silk.

Sister Claire chronicles the community's achievements with charm and close attention to detail. She also describes unequivocally the turmoil within the community where hostility between strong personalities sparked conflicts fueled by the actions of Father Alois Plut, pastor of St. Mark's in Shakopee, Abbot Alexius Edelbrock of St. John's in Collegeville, and other Minnesota churchmen. The troubles peaked in 1880 when Bishop John Ireland announced that the community was suppressed and that the sisters were to join the Benedictines at St. Joseph. Although they went to St. Joseph, where Sister Scholastica Kerst, turbulent alumna of St. Gertrude's, headed St. Benedict's, some of them never felt at home there. The au-

thor concludes, however, that they were the leaven, vitalizing the order with their learning and "a freedom which predated the spirit of Vatican II."

The pamphlet, illustrated and documented but without an index, includes a useful appendix giving biographical information on sisters from St. Gertrude's who joined St. Benedict's.

LUCILE M. KANE

SAMUEL D. HINMAN is perhaps best known in Minnesota as an Episcopal missionary whose early church work at the Lower Sioux Agency near Morton was interrupted by the Sioux (or Dakota) Uprising of 1862. After his escape from the agency, he worked among captive Dakota at Fort Snelling and then followed them as a missionary when they were removed to Dakota Territory and later to Niobrara in Nebraska. In the last years of his life (1886-90) he returned at Bishop Henry B. Whipple's urging to serve Indians again in the Morton area.

In an article in the Winter, 1979, issue of *Nebraska History*, Grant K. Anderson deals briefly with these and other aspects of the missionary's career but concentrates on a lesser-known phase of it — "Samuel D. Hinman and the Opening of the Black Hills." The author shows that a Hinman-led party was exploring the Black Hills in the Great Sioux Reservation, looking for an agency site, at the same time the General George A. Custer expedition of 1874 was moving through the area in defiance of the Laramie Treaty of 1868 and discovering gold. For some time, Hinman denied there was gold in the Black Hills, probably to help the Indians maintain control over the area, but eventually he and his associates had to admit gold was there. The author then traces Hinman's roles as treaty maker and interpreter in all the governmental dealings of 1874-76 by which the Indians were forced to give up their Black Hills lands to white encroachment. Anderson keeps pretty much to narration in his interesting article and attempts little analysis of Hinman's actions and personality except to point out that they were controversial.

HOMER P. CLARK, lawyer, publisher, philanthropist, centenarian, and longtime member and officer of the Minnesota Historical Society, is the subject of a new biography by Virginia Huck. Entitled *The Many Worlds of Homer P. Clark* (St. Paul, West Publishing Co., 1980, 249 p.), the book is a graceful memorial to a man whose influence on St. Paul was felt for more than eighty years.

"WILD RICE was the key to the St. Croix fur trade," writes editor Bruce M. White in a lengthy and valuable article on the trade featured in the Summer, 1980, issue of *The Dulles Visitor*, a newspaper-format annual publication crammed with St. Croix area history. White adds that "this prolific aquatic plant, which they (the traders) called 'la folle avoine,' was so important that they named the area after it." The availability of the rice in small rivers and lakes of the St. Croix Valley, plus other food such as fish, game, and maple sugar, permitted the traders to cut down on food they brought in from the East to feed themselves. Thus "when fur animals became comparatively scarce," White writes, "the trade could still be profitable." He introduces several St. Croix fur traders — among them a youthful George Nelson (whose reminiscent account was published in *Minnesota History* in 1947), Joseph La Prairie, Thomas Connor, Michel Curot, and John Sayer. He also deals with the importance of the Indians in the trade, their battles, and the eventual switch of wealthy, influential traders to lumbering, real estate, railroads, and politics.

Other articles in the issue include publisher Helen M. White's account of Lindstrom observing its 100th anniversary, historian James Taylor Dunn's interesting story on a decidedly mixed blessing — the blasting of a new highway in 1931 out of the bluffs along the St. Croix south of Taylors Falls — and assistant editor Ann Regan's description of a canoe trip on the Yellow River in the Folle Avoine.

A CALL FOR PAPERS has been made for the thirteenth annual Dakota History Conference to be held at Dakota State College, Madison, S.D., April 10–11, 1981. The Karl Mundt Distinguished Historical Writing Awards will be presented for the best papers by two categories of writers: professional (including those attached to an institution of higher education in the fields of social science, English, or history) and amateur (anyone else). First, second, and third prizes of \$250.00, \$150.00, and \$100.00 will be presented for best papers in each category. Papers should relate to some aspect of the history of South Dakota, Dakota Territory, or the Upper Great Plains region. In addition, there will be two awards of \$100.00 each by topic: the Richard Cropp Award for the best paper in military history and the Cedrick Cummins

Award for the best paper in institutional history. All papers submitted for competition must be read by the author.

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A BICENTENNIAL project of the South Dakota State Historical Society has resulted in the publication of a *Checklist of South Dakota Newspapers* (Pierre, S.D., 1976, 92 p.). This compilation is especially helpful because all the items listed in it have been microfilmed, and copies of these films are available for use in other institutions through interlibrary loan. Access to 8,780 rolls of microfilm of newspapers published throughout the state from 1859 to 1976 is thus provided by this checklist. The newspaper titles are grouped by place of publication, with these municipalities arranged in alphabetical order. A title index, which is not included, would have been a useful addition.

IN HIS ARTICLE, "Early Dakota Migration and Intertribal War: A Revision," that leads off *The Western Historical Quarterly* for January, 1980, Gary Clayton Anderson takes issue with historians who hold that the Dakota (Sioux) were driven by the Ojibway (Chippewa) from their woodland homes in northern Minnesota to the western plains. This interpretation, Anderson reminds us, relies heavily on Ojibway oral tradition, particularly on that used by Chippewa mixed-blood William W. Warren in his "History of the Ojibway Nation."

"There is no denying that intertribal warfare did have some impact upon Dakota population movements especially after the escalation of the conflict in the 1730s," says Anderson, but he also indicates that other factors were economic. The early Sioux people "were a typical hunting, food-gathering society that roamed the countryside most of the year. Migration . . . allowed the tribe to maintain high food production levels." Changes in the Upper Mississippi ecology caused by the European trade also "affected hunting patterns and in turn population movements." Eventually traders managed to reverse the westward migratory trends of many Sioux villagers, with the result that warfare intensified because tribes fought over resources. Anderson's summary is that to portray the Ojibway "as conquerors and the Dakotas as defeated refugees is a historical inaccuracy."

RESEARCHERS in women's history have, at long last, what they have been waiting for — the publication of *Women's History Sources: A Guide to Archives and Manuscript Collections in the United States* (New York, R. R. Bowker Co., 1979, 2 vols., 1114 p., 391 p.). The work, edited by Andrea Hinding, Ames Sheldon Bower, and Clarke A. Chambers, contains contributions from 1,586 repositories for 18,026 collections and is arranged by state and subdivided by city. Entries cover individual women, women's groups (like the League of Women Voters), collections that contain material for or about women, and papers from groups in which women are interested (temperance and birth control, for instance).

The two-volume format makes it possible to open the separate index to an entry and then search through the first volume, thus eliminating the nuisance of flipping back and forth. Helpful introductory notes explain the method behind the project and how to use the book. As a result of this survey, one can now look up "World War I" in the index and be guided to information across the nation on women's activities during that conflict, or one can find under "Clara Barton" that Minnesota has material on her.

A survey like this has to rely on the enthusiasm of regional workers, and some unevenness results. Researchers studying Minnesota women, for example, enjoy a bonanza of seventy-eight pages of entries, while Indiana has only twelve pages — nearly matched by the ten pages for Lincoln, Neb., alone.

When a researcher begins to use the index, some problems surface, of which only a few will be mentioned. Whereas medicine has cross references, temperance and prohibition do not. No category exists for sororities despite the inclusion of papers from several groups. A woman's professional or best-known name is supposed to be used, but Ann Landers is listed under Esther Lederer and George Sand has no other name listed. Although the editors intended to include the names of husbands, neither of the above two women has one listed, and Wallis Simpson is missing all three of hers. Moreover, she is lacking her title and one entry number. When this valuable reference work is reprinted, let us hope the budget will allow the index to be revised, eliminating these troublesome inconsistencies.

SALLY RUBINSTEIN



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