

BOOK REVIEWS

They Chose Minnesota: A Survey of the State's Ethnic Groups. Edited by June Drenning Holmquist.

(St. Paul, Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1981. xiii, 614 p. Maps, illustrations. \$45.00.)

IT IS SURPRISING to discover in this extraordinary book that not only Scandinavians but men, women, and children from at least 60 countries and regions have chosen to live in the North Star State since 1850. Most people are well aware that thousands of these settlers came from Sweden or Norway; it is less well known that perhaps as many as a million emigrants from other parts of Europe, the Middle East, and Asia also decided to become Minnesotans. Today, their descendants along with diverse recent immigrants, a few thousand Ojibway and Dakota Indians, and approximately 50,000 Afro-Americans make up the special ethnic mix that characterizes Minnesota.

The languages, religions, cultures, and aspirations of all these groups have sometimes been similar and compatible and sometimes very different and in conflict. At this time in the history of Minnesota the contributors to this book are able to document American Indian groups who seem always to have lived in Minnesota; fifth- and sixth-generation families, who have been threatened at one time or another by successive waves of newcomers and may be interested in their own ancestry but not in ethnic matters; and numerous members of the second or third generation, who typically wonder whether or not the ethnic institutions established by their parents or grandparents ought to be supported, shunned, or shut down. The newest arrivals, often hapless refugees, are usually too busy getting ahead to worry about such issues or to attempt to alter their primary affiliations. They are what they are; they may or may not evolve into an ethnic group or presence. Like virtually all first-generation immigrants, however, they cling to each other for mutual support and company.

This is what this book is all about, and it is fascinating!

It comes off as well as it does because a lot of diligence and determination were applied all along the line. Preparations began in 1973 when Professor Carlton Qualey set in motion a project at the Minnesota Historical Society to collect demographic and geographic data on the ethnic history of Minnesota. When there was sufficient material in hand, the late June Drenning Holmquist, assistant director for publications and research at MHS, with an obviously talented group of associates began to build the present book. They did not escape the problems of definition and inconsistent statistics that haunt all ethnic work, but the result is truly impressive. In

fact, *They Chose Minnesota* is far and away the best survey of ethnic groups in an individual state that this reviewer has ever seen. At the time of the Bicentennial in 1976 a lot of relatively superficial work became available. For the most part it appeared to be no more than a tardy effort to make non-Anglo-Americans feel that they too had an important stake in America, but *They Chose Minnesota* establishes a new standard for state ethnic history. It is unlikely to be surpassed for some time to come. Not that other states lack the necessary records to imitate Minnesota; they do not seem able to muster the will, the research skills, and the level of funding that are required for a first-rate effort.

They Chose Minnesota is a big book and exceedingly handsome. It measures 8¼ by 11 and weighs a solid three pounds. It provides an almost unimaginable, occasionally overwhelming, amount of information about the various groups that live in Minnesota presently or have lived there. Its 614 double-column pages are enlivened by 61 maps, 85 tables, and 145 nostalgic photographs. There are 32 chapters by 27 authors, many of them young scholars, others such as Mark Stolarik, Rudolph Vecoli, Frank Renkiewicz, Carlton Qualey, and the late Theodore Saloutos well known in ethnic studies. All is in order except for the reference notes. Awkwardly placed at the end of each chapter, they make it difficult to move from one entry to the next, surely a barrier to the casual reader. In addition, far too many of them contain substantive information, not merely citations, that ought to have been worked into the text or dropped.

It is difficult, however, to complain about the editor's introduction, which is extremely helpful. Holmquist summarized at length the experiences of successive waves of newcomers to Minnesota; she discussed their origins, their reasons for going to Minnesota — what pushed them and what pulled them — where they settled, and what mobility they achieved. The book is remarkably free of filiopietism, and as a result success and failure seem to be objectively assessed. It is noteworthy as well that Holmquist did not flinch from highlighting the various problems that confronted many "foreigners" in Minnesota, specifically, the outrageous activities of the seven-man Commission of Public Safety that waged war on certain immigrant groups from 1917 to 1920. The identity of these gentlemen is perhaps well known in their home state — they are pictured on page 11 — but it would be interesting to know something about their ethnic origins for the light it might shed on that enormously crucial question — by what process did you get to be an American in Minnesota? Was the process the same for everybody? Is there anything about the history or geography or politics of Minnesota that leads to especially rapid assimilation or long lasting ethnic group survival?

The reviewer knows how tough it is to put an ethnic survey together. *They Chose Minnesota* stands as a tribute to June Drenning Holmquist, to her staff and contributors, and to her publisher. It will delight and reward its readers.

Reviewed by ANN ORLOV, the managing editor of the Harvard Encyclopedia of American Ethnic Groups, first proposed by her in 1972 and published by the Harvard University Press almost nine years later, in 1981.

***Minnesota Logging Railroads: A Pictorial History of the Era When White Pine and the Logging Railroad Reign'd Supreme.* By Frank A. King.**

(San Marino, Cal., Golden West Books, 1981. 206 p. \$34.95.)

MINNESOTA'S earliest logging took place near rivers and streams, using horse-drawn sleighs in winter to take the logs to riverbanks and log drives in spring to transport the logs downriver to sawmills, many of which were also powered by water. As timber stands near water became depleted, lumber companies turned to the rapidly developing steam technology to transport their logs and power their sawmills, enabling them to conduct both logging and mill operations year-round, without concern for early spring thaws or low water levels.

Frank King's seemingly simple tale of transition to a new technology provides some impressive statistics: 5,000 miles of logging railroads constructed in northeastern and north-central Minnesota between 1886 and the 1920s; an annual capacity of 300 million board feet of lumber at the mills of a single firm, the Virginia and Rainy Lake Company at Virginia, Minnesota ("the largest, most modern and complete white pine lumber plant in the world"); 600 million board feet produced by Minneapolis sawmills in their peak year, 1899; more than a billion board feet hauled by rail in Minnesota in 1901.

The author has an impressive statistic of his own: for more than 30 years he has gathered information and photographs for this book. This fact is the book's major strength, but it is something of a problem as well. King knows his materials and uses them well. The difficulty comes when a reader, wishing to follow up some part of the story, finds no footnotes and only a single-page bibliography. The lack of source notes would not be so distressing in a less valuable volume, but this is no run-of-the-mill book for railroad fans. Perhaps it would be best to conclude that the primary sources for this book are in the Frank King Collection and hope that the collection will one day be available at a repository open to the public.

Minnesota Logging Railroads discusses locomotives, of course, from main-line engines to the geared Shays and Heislors, but it also covers such diverse topics as McGiffert log loaders, Russel log cars, railroad finances, dump trestles, hot ponds, changes in logging camp life brought about by the new technology, and the effect on communities as timber supplies ran out and lumbering and sawmill operations shut down, causing thousands of men to lose their jobs.

King's text is supplemented by nearly 400 well-chosen illustrations, including photographs, maps, postcards, en-

gineering drawings, advertisements from trade catalogs and journals, and railroad memorabilia such as timetables, passes, fare receipts, and freight tariffs. Many of the illustrations cover a full page, and a few are even larger, including a foldout map showing all the logging railroad lines in Minnesota and a 34-inch-wide photograph of the Virginia and Rainy Lake Company's operations. Appendixes list the state's logging railroads, giving both the name of the railroad and of its affiliated lumber company, and locomotive rosters for the major roads. The brief index does a good job of covering railroad and lumber company names but is of little value for more general subjects.

For all its impressive statistics, the logging industry has left almost no physical evidence to tell its importance in Minnesota's history. Its rail lines have been removed, its locomotives scrapped or sold, its sawmills dismantled. In words and photographs, *Minnesota Logging Railroads* shows us what we have lost.

Reviewed by JOHN WICKRE, assistant head of technical services in the MHS division of archives and manuscripts, who has a long-standing interest in Minnesota railroad history.

***The Image of War: 1861-1865. Volume 1, Shadows of the Storm.* Edited by William C. Davis.**

(New York, Doubleday, 1981. 464 p. Illustrations. \$35.00.)

BY THE TIME the nation "went mad and warred upon itself" in 1861, Americans were fascinated with photography. Both as an art form and an industry it came of age just as the Civil War broke out. Numerous photographers seized the opportunity to take thousands of war pictures to satisfy the demand, especially in the North, for popular *cartes de visite* and stereoscopic views. (Magazines and newspapers could not yet reproduce photographs on the printed page.)

Photographers themselves, notably Alexander Gardner and George N. Barnard, tried publishing the first pictorial histories of the war soon after it ended, but the expense of pasting in numerous contact prints made the efforts financially unsuccessful. It was not until 1911, some years after the halftone printing process was developed, that the Review of Reviews Company of New York City issued its landmark 10-volume *Photographic History of the Civil War*, an able text accompanied by thousands of photographs that has never been surpassed in its field.

Now, however, that history may well be superseded by the National Historical Society's promised six-volume work, under the general title *The Image of War*. This auspicious first volume, *Shadows of the Storm*, presents some 650 photographs — more than half of which have never been published before — of such subjects as the dividing nation in the late 1850s, "Bleeding Kansas," Fort Sumter, and the battles of First Bull Run, Shiloh, and Corinth. There are many photographs not included in the earlier series, and the images are generally better reproduced by modern methods and are more skillfully captioned.

Editor Davis points out in his introduction that *The Image*

of War, which will use some 4,000 illustrations from more than 100,000 "personally examined," was not conceived to be a photographic history of the war. Photographers were absent from too many areas of the struggle, and even those sectors covered were often not pictured in a well-balanced manner. Rather, Davis says, new volumes will be "an expression of the Civil War through the photographers' eyes." It skips what the photographers skipped.

A strength of the first volume is its chapter essays by "big guns" among Civil War historians which prepare the reader for the images to follow. The late T. Harry Williams wrote the opening piece on "The Coming of the War," dealing with such themes as popular sovereignty, the Kansas question, the ineptness of the Buchanan administration, and the movement of the nation westward. In the clever marrying of pictures and captions that follows, Minnesota's Castle Rock is used as an example of westward expansion. One wishes for more information under the Castle Rock picture.

Former Minnesotan W. A. Swanberg, author of a 1957 book on the subject, did the essay for "The Guns of Fort Sumter," which is followed by an amazing portfolio of Confederate views of the captured fort in the harbor at Charleston.

The essay for "The Boys of '61" was written expertly by the top authority on the subject, the late Bell I. Wiley. The photographs of recruits that ensue are among the most poignant in the book — especially one of a 10-year-old drummer boy named David Wood. Men (and boys) on both sides who rushed to enlist for fear the war would end before they could get any action are shown in an amusing array of uniforms and poses. These pictures stand in contrast to the stark scenes of dead soldiers at Corinth elsewhere in the book. Other essayists in the volume include Joseph P. Cullen ("The First Bull Run"), Virgil Carrington Jones ("The Navies Begin"), Albert Castel ("The War Moves West"), and Maury Klein ("The North at War"). The latter chapter includes a view of St. Paul in the 1850s.

Among the most interesting portions of the book are those covering the photographers themselves. The editor takes pains to point out that the best-known Civil War photographer, Mathew Brady, was an "entrepreneurial genius" who left his stamp on pictorial coverage of the conflict, although he "may not personally have exposed a single one of the thousands of negatives attributed to him." He was so nearsighted by 1861 that he left the camera work to his assistants, "while he personally took the credit."

The book devotes a whole chapter (with an essay by Leslie D. Jensen) to an obscure camera artist, Confederate photographer J. D. Edwards, whose many views of forts and soldiers in the Pensacola, Florida, area and in New Orleans help balance the book's coverage. "Were it not for Edwards," says Jensen, "photographic coverage of Confederate military events would be limited to a mere handful of isolated pictures."

Minnesota pictures in the book, aside from those already mentioned, include two of the First Minnesota Regiment, one near Edwards Ferry, Maryland, and the others of officers at the home of the commandant at Fort Snelling; a view of the steam frigate "Minnesota"; and one purporting to show the Second Minnesota Regiment. The fact that the latter is identified in the Minnesota Historical Society audio-visual library (source of most of the Minnesota pictures) as being part of at

least two other Minnesota regiments raises doubt that the editors of the new book have been able to solve all their caption problems. Moreover, their cleverness in putting pictures together occasionally leads them to obscure identification of some persons portrayed.

Nevertheless, *Shadows in the Storm* is in general an expert presentation of both familiar and unfamiliar Civil War pictures. It leads one to anticipate eagerly the second volume, published in February, 1982. The others are scheduled to appear at six-month intervals thereafter.

Reviewed by KENNETH CARLEY, author of *Minnesota in the Civil War* (1961), cofounder of the *Twin Cities Civil War Round Table*, and former editor of this magazine.

From Memory to History: Using Oral Sources in Local Historical Research. By Barbara Allen and Lynwood Montell.

(Nashville, Tenn., American Association for State and Local History, 1981. vii, 172 p. \$12.50.)

AN ELEGANT demonstration of how the methods of folklore can be applied to supplement and complement local historical research, *From Memory to History* is a timely, valuable, and well-written manual, useful to anyone interested in working with orally communicated history. It is a guidebook that sets forth ways to evaluate and use oral materials once they have been gathered.

The authors, both folklorists, are well qualified. Allen has researched and published extensively in folklore and oral history and is an expert in historical legendry: Montell's *The Saga of Coe Ridge: A Study in Oral History* (1970) was immediately acclaimed as a pioneering work in the use of oral materials for historical reconstruction. Their present work is well illustrated with examples from the field work of the authors and their colleagues.

The basic premises of the book rest on faith in human competence. The authors assert that people remember a vast amount of information and a wealth of detail that is never committed to writing. Secondly, they claim that oral sources provide insights extending beyond *what* happened to how people *felt* about what happened. (The meaning of oral is expanded to include accounts written from memory, such as letters, diaries, and travel accounts.) History thus becomes profoundly personal. Many historians have shifted their focus from prominent politicians and economic events in an effort to put "the people" back into history. According to the authors, oral history documents everyday events, adding a dimension of intimacy and participation to local history which is seen as a microcosm of the national experience.

The book distinguishes oral history from ethnohistory and folk history — all of which are based on oral material collected from members of a particular group. Ethnohistory reflects the researcher's analysis of what happened. Folk history, on the other hand, reconstructs the past according to the concepts of the community's members. Between the two on this spectrum is oral history, a term which has two meanings: it is a method of collecting and recording information about the past; it is a body

of knowledge that exists in people's memories and will be lost at death unless it is recorded. Oral history is thus a primary document which yields an intimate and individual view of the past while revealing the delicate process of oral folk tradition. It fills a void not only by complementing the written record but also by providing new information.

An entire chapter expands on these two meanings of orally communicated history. The authors establish eight characteristics such as disregard for standard chronology, reliance on visual imagery, telescoping of historical time, and dramatic narrative elements or motifs. They also remind us that certain settings such as formal interviews and informal conversations affect the content of the material collected. The authors show this clearly in Appendix A entitled "the Legend of Calvin Logsdon," which includes verbatim transcripts showing the interaction between conversationalists.

Montell and Allen also offer guidance in identifying and using the materials, stressing that judgment and imagination are required. It is here that the relationship of folklore to oral history, a point that is made throughout the book, becomes crucial. There is little difference in the two collecting methods. Both fields recognize the usefulness of the tape recorder as a means of reaching into the lives and minds of individuals from every walk of life. Both share easily identifiable forms of narratives: personal experience, family, occupation, place-name accounts, and, of course, stories of heroes and villains. Although on this level oral history and folklore overlap a great deal, Allen and Montell are quick to distinguish between them. In this context, folklore is not "just folklore" — rumor, misunderstanding, or falsehood. "For our purposes, whether folklore is true or false is immaterial. The fact that it is communicated from one person to another, either orally in face-to-face conversation or visually, by example, rather than being drawn from written materials, is its significant feature for local historical research."

Testing oral sources for historical validity is of great concern to Allen and Montell who argue, citing examples from cultures around the world, that human memory can be trusted. Internal tests require some knowledge of folklore genres, and Appendix B lists typical legends and anecdotes to help the historical researcher become aware of common folklore themes also found in oral accounts. "Through the process of identifying these floating narrative elements, the local historical researcher can peel away the embellishment husk to reveal the historical kernels of truth." The researcher is warned, however, to allow both for embellishment and for truth *as known by the narrator*, as these help account for personal and group bias. Beyond such internal tests, the authors suggest external checks such as verifying an account against a group's material culture and corroborating oral information with printed sources, particularly local literature.

Submerged forms of historical truth are discussed with great insight. The authors point out that "What people *believe* happened is often as important as what actually happened, for people think, act, and react in accordance with what they believe to be true." The researcher must look for underlying truths often conveyed in a group's folklore and folklife. Through belief systems, proverbs, ballads, and architecture, for example, the researcher can get at attitudes and interpretations of facts.

The authors recognize that oral historical accounts are charged with emotion, a fact that helps to explain divergent and conflicting versions of the same event. "We should be prepared to acknowledge that the view of the past expressed in orally communicated history may conflict with that found in formal records on which historians typically rely." So-called reliable documents may be biased too.

Allen and Montell conclude with an informative and pragmatic chapter on producing a manuscript from oral sources. They offer common-sense tips on organizing, integrating, and editing oral texts, suggesting that oral narratives be woven in with written accounts to complement, supplement, and support printed sources. They warn against lumping all oral material together as "folklore." And they even provide mechanical details such as how to footnote sources.

From Memory to History is a landmark work bridging the gap between oral history and folklore. It once again affirms that disciplines can work together and share knowledge for mutual benefit.

Reviewed by JAMES C. MOSS, doctoral candidate in folklore and folklife at the University of Pennsylvania and part-time instructor of folklore at Hamline University. His dissertation and several published articles deal with oral narrative and historical legends.

***The Flavor of Wisconsin: An Informal History of Food and Eating in the Badger State, Together With 400 Recipes.* By Harva Hachten.**

(Madison, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1981. 363 p. Illustrations. \$14.95.)

THIS well-written account of the state's culinary heritage carries a made-to-order title. While ethnic cookery is the centerpiece, Harva Hachten sets a larger table that provides the collateral developments in commercial food-related enterprises. Immigrants not only re-created in their Wisconsin kitchens the cooking they had been accustomed to but also transferred skills they had learned in dairying, for example, in their native lands to develop the state's leading industry.

Like the explorers before them, immigrants benefited from the American Indians' custom of sharing their food resources. Later, as their food supplies increased, settlers used their garden surplus to barter with the Indians for wild game, maple syrup, fish, cranberries, wild rice, and corn.

While the fur trade was economically important, the food trade yielded advantages of a different kind. Once the new arrivals overcame the limited supplies of the early years and began again the preparation of traditional food combinations, Danish households filled earthenware crocks with fried cakes, Welsh kitchens boasted oatmeal bread, and Belgian and Bohemian gardeners grew poppies to use the seeds from the dried pods in their cooking and baking. In the cobblestone houses of Cornish lead miners near the southwestern border of the region, housewives filled pasty dough with a variety of savory ingredients and baked the equally traditional tea cakes and saffron cakes. A crock filled with sauerkraut in a German

household pleased many appetites. Evidence that ethnic groups today continue to prepare traditional dishes is supported by 400 recipes included in the book. Some were selected from manuscript cookbooks in the Wisconsin society's collection, but many were submitted by contemporary housewives. One recipe, identified as Bohemian Browned Flour Sauerkraut, is accompanied by a reminiscence that describes the mixture as "delicious served over hot dumplings split in half." Many standard recipes appear, but most others focus on the origins of the Wisconsin people. "Eggs and Cheese," for instance, leads into recipes for *Schmeir Kase* and Baked Flat Cheese.

It is no surprise that 11 sausage recipes are included, representing Norwegian, German, Polish, Slovenian, and Bohemian origins. For good measure, there is also a Swedish recipe for Sausage Potato Cakes. A chapter entitled "The Corporate Kitchen" describes Wisconsin's sausage-making industry. Hachten also recounts the evolution of other commercial enterprises: brewing, dairying, cheese making, butter manufacture, and the fresh-water fish industry. She is careful to remind readers of Wisconsin's record in the production of potatoes, cranberries, honey, maple syrup, spearmint and peppermint, and its leadership in the canning industry.

Another "leader" the state can claim is the most successful fund-raising cookbook in the nation, *The Settlement Cook Book, The Way to a Man's Heart* by Elizabeth B. Kander of Milwaukee, whose handwritten recipes originally introduced and instructed immigrants on American cookery. The first volume was published in 1901; since then, the book has gone through 33 editions, the most recent one in 1965.

Another fund-raising book was available to Wisconsin residents in 1870. The authors, Lyman C. Draper, first secretary of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, and William A. Croffut, a Connecticut journalist who served on the society's board of curators, wrote an 800-page compendium of home remedies and advice. It was called *A Helping Hand for Town and Country: An American Home Book of Practical and Scien-*

tific Information Concerning House and Lawn, Garden and Orchard, Field, Barn, and Stable, Apiary and Fish Pond, Workshop and Dairy, and the Many Important Interests Pertaining to Domestic Economy and Family Health. Draper hoped to use the profits to publish biographies and a history of the American Revolution he intended to write but never did. Chicanery on the part of the publisher ended the authors' opportunity to profit.

In a chapter that Hachten calls "Leftovers," she described how former governor and senator Robert M. La Follette cured his health problem, a digestive disorder, with the then popular Battle Creek diet of grains and nuts. The author also recounts the invention of the ice cream sundae in Two Rivers in 1881, the Swedish custom of bringing fruit soup to a home with a new baby, and the creation of Colby as Wisconsin's only native cheese.

A mixed selection of photographs from the historical society's collection separates the text from the recipes. Some photographs date back to the last century, and a few were taken as recently as the 1960s. All are related to the subject — food and dining — and supply another source of interest.

The Flavor of Wisconsin is indeed a feast. Harva Hachten, a public information officer of the Wisconsin historical society in 1973 when she began work on the book, is a journalist, author, and editor of several books; she has mined a rich subject and defined much about the people of Wisconsin. The volume has a general index, a separate recipe index, a selected bibliography, a list of contributors, a useful introduction, and a meaningful page of acknowledgments. The author's research notes and a more complete bibliography are on file in the Wisconsin society, but that fails to compensate for the absence of footnotes in the text, which can only be described as a serious omission in an otherwise fine book.

Reviewed by MARJORIE KREIDBERG, *author of* Food on the Frontier: Minnesota Cooking from 1850 to 1900, with Selected Recipes (1975), *published by the MHS.*

NEWS & NOTES

LLOYD A. WILFORD died in Hudson, Wisconsin, on January 14, 1982, at the age of 88, leaving a legacy of systematic archaeological research in Minnesota that provides a framework for present and future scholars. The MHS *Prehistoric Archaeology Series* was initiated partly on the strength of Wilford's then unpublished material. Before beginning his 27-year career at the University of Minnesota, he had taught school, served in the Navy, practiced law, and earned a master's degree in political science. He received

his doctorate in anthropology from Harvard University in 1935. The cause of archaeology in Minnesota has been measurably advanced by the work of this lively and dedicated man's life.

Elden Johnson

THE 17th Annual Northern Great Plains History Conference, to be held in Bemidji on October 7-9, 1982, welcomes papers in all areas of history. Proposals for panels and abstracts of papers should be sent by May 1, 1982, to Professor Raymond L. Jensen, Chairman, Department of History,

Hagg-Sauer Hall, Bemidji State University, Bemidji, Minnesota 56601.

LOCAL talent, using the geographical term broadly, is displayed in a wonderful collection edited by Seymour Yesner and entitled *25 Minnesota Writers* (Minneapolis, Nodin Press, 1980, 297 p., \$5.95). The editorial board took care to select a diversity of authors: the young and the old, male and female, rural and urban. The result is a rich mix of short stories, as interesting in their variety as they are in their shared regional identity.

UPPER MIDWEST HISTORY is the name chosen for a new annual journal that appeared late in 1981. Focusing on an area that includes Minnesota, North and South Dakota, Iowa, Wisconsin, Michigan's Upper Peninsula, Manitoba, and Ontario, the editors plan to offer diverse perspectives on the history of that large region. This auspicious first issue contains articles by art historian Timothy J. Garvey, geographer Robert C. Ostergren, archaeologist Guy E. Gibbon, and congressional legislative assistant John E. Haynes. The work of the last three authors was derived from papers they presented at the 15th Annual Northern Great Plains History Conference at Duluth in 1980. Inquiries about the new publication should be addressed to the editors, 269 A. B. Anderson Hall, University of Minnesota, Duluth 55812.

THE Immigration History Research Center of the University of Minnesota, St. Paul, has published two new bibliographies of North American ethnic groups: *Ukrainians in North America: A Select Bibliography*, compiled by Halyna Myroniuk and Christine Worobec and published jointly with the Multicultural Historical Society of Ontario; *Slovenes in the United States and Canada: A Bibliography*, compiled and edited by Joseph D. Dwyer, issued as volume 3 in the IHRC's Ethnic Bibliography Series. The Ukrainian work includes sections on bibliographies and reference material, Ukrainians in Canada and the United States, language, the arts, and emigré literature. It has almost 2,000 entries, arranged by subject and accessible through both name and organizational indexes.

The Slovene bibliography, with nearly 2,500 entries, is also topically arranged and contains a name index of authors, editors, and subjects of biographies. The headings include reference works, Slovenian-American history, biographies, organizations, press, language, literature, religion, society, arts, and music. Works by Slovenian Americans on Slovenia and Yugoslavia are listed, as are newspapers, periodicals, and manuscript collections.

Both may be ordered from the IHRC at 826 Berry St., St. Paul 55114. The Slovene work costs \$7.00 plus \$2.00 postage and handling; the Ukrainian volume sells for \$10.00 plus \$2.00 postage and handling. Minnesota residents should add 5 per cent sales tax.

STUDENTS of many pursuits will want to note the publication of *U.S. Cultural History: A Guide to Information Sources* by Philip I. Mitterling (Detroit, Gale Research Co., 1980, 581 p.). The usefully annotated bibliography is arranged in subject chapters such as architecture and the arts, biography, economic, political, and social thought, and popular culture. Each chapter is subdivided chronologically into three eras. Author, title, and subject indexes enhance this important, multi-disciplinary work.

SISTER M. Incarnata Girgen, O.S.B., takes an in-depth look at the controversies surrounding the founding of a Roman Catholic religious order in the United States and in Minnesota in her book, *Behind the Beginnings: Benedictine Women in America* (St. Benedict's Convent, St. Joseph, Minn., 1981, \$9.50). The volume consists for the most part of letters and documents translated from German to English, but the text and appendixes provide continuity and further information. Unfortunately there is no index.

A COLLECTION of essays entitled *Elias Potter Lyon: Minnesota's Leader in Medical Education* (St. Louis, Warren H. Green, Inc., 1981, 292 p., \$14.50) deals with the former dean of the University of Minnesota Medical School during its emergence as an international center for graduate work. The 15 chapters, edited by the late Dr. Owen Wangenstein, present the early history of various departments in the school and the power struggles associated with them. A number of the essays are purely anecdotal, but others, such as one by Maurice B. Visscher, are scholarly.

The account of the graduate medical school's affiliation with the Mayo Clinic, which was opposed by a number of the Minnesota faculty and members of the medical society at large, is particularly interesting. The association has gone on to be valuable for both the Mayo Clinic and Foundation and the medical school.

The volume undoubtedly will serve as a useful springboard for further studies of the medical school's history. A number of the authors were the elder statesmen of the school (three had died before the book was published). Doctors, nurses, and persons interested in Minnesota medical history will find this volume a pleasant companion for an evening by the fire.

Edward C. McElfresh, M.D.

SCANDO-AMERICANA: Papers on Scandinavian Emigration to the United States, edited by Ingrid Semmingsen and Per Seyersted and published in paperback by the American Institute of the University of Oslo in 1980, consists of the papers read at a conference held in Oslo in 1975. The ten papers range from Charlotte Erickson's "Explanatory Models in Immigration and Migration Research" through Reino Kero's "Finnish Emigration to the United States" to Sten Carlsson's "Scandinavian Politicians in the United States."

Peter A. Munch offers "Immigration History in Sociological Perspective," Einar Haugen looks at "Immigrant Language as an Index of Social Integration," and Dorothy Burton Skårdal presents "Problems and Promises of Immigration Literature in Social History." Two Swedish scholars discuss their emigrated countrymen, Hans Norman in "Demographic Structures in Two Swedish Settlements in Wisconsin" and Sune Åkerman in "Stability and Change in the Migration of a Medium-Sized City. The Case of Worcester, Massachusetts"; two other writers review related policies in Sweden: Nils Runeby in "Americanism, Taylorism and Social Integration. Action Programmes for Swedish Industry at the Beginning of the Twentieth Century" and Ann-Sofie Källemark in "Swedish Emigration Policy in an International Perspective, 1840-1925." The 213-page volume includes a bibliography and a name index; it is available for \$5.00 from the University of Oslo, P.B. 1002 Blindern, Oslo 3, Norway.

READERS interested in northern Minnesota will welcome the publication of the first substantial history of Cook County. Entitled *Pioneers in the Wilderness*, this well-written volume by Willis H. Raff was published by the Cook County Historical Society (1981, 402 p., \$17.50).

Major space is devoted to two topics: the settlement and early years of Grand Marais from the 1850s to about 1910 and the various efforts to exploit the county's mineral resources, especially the Paulson Mine near Gunflint Lake served by the Port Arthur, Duluth, and Western Railroad. Other topics briefly touched on are the smaller settlements in the county, the development of roads along the lake shore and inland, especially the Rove Lake (later the Gunflint) Trail, mail routes, mail carriers and their dog teams, the beginnings of the tourist

trade in the 1890s, the unusual origins of various geographic names such as Hungry Jack Lake, institutions in Grand Marais, and the contributions of many pioneers, including the Mayhew and Charles J. Johnson families.

Almost completely neglected are Grand Portage and the important logging and lumbering industry in the county. A serious drawback, too, is the lack of an index. It is to be hoped that one will be added to subsequent editions. The book is fully annotated and enhanced by many fine photographs gathered from private collections in the area.

GARY and Bonnie Tefft's *Red Wing Potters & Their Wares* is a handsome, large-format volume of 192 pages available either in hard cover (\$22.95) or paperback (\$14.95) that informs the reader about the town of Red Wing, the history of its pottery industry, and the technology of clay and pottery. Most of the book, however, is devoted to the local potters and their products; the entire volume is profusely illustrated with photographs — some in color — and other useful pictures, including reproductions of numerous pages from Red Wing pottery catalogs. Though without a table of contents, the book contains an index, a bibliography, and perhaps most interesting, "a complete listing of the newspaper references to the clay working industry in Red Wing" from 1870 to 1900 in local papers. *Red Wing Potters* may be ordered from Locust Enterprises, W174 N9422 Devonwood Road, Menominee Falls, Wis. 53051.

THE FIRST ISSUE of a new quarterly magazine, the *Journal of American Ethnic History*, appeared in Fall, 1981. Launched by the Immigration History Society, its editorial board counts two prominent Minnesota ethnic historians, Carlton C. Qualey of the MHS and Rudolph J. Vecoli of the University of Minnesota. The maiden issue includes numerous book reviews, a review essay by Edith Hoshino called "Legends of Chinese America," and four articles. Two of them are theoretical, one focuses on the recent development of scholarship in ethnic studies, and one — June Granatir Alexander's discussion of pre-World War I Slovak immigration to Pittsburgh — might be characterized as "nitty-gritty," the stuff of which future issues of the quarterly will probably for the most part be composed.

Nathan Glazer's look back at the

book he wrote with Daniel Moynihan in 1961, *Beyond the Melting Pot*, requires something of an insider's perspective to appreciate fully, perhaps. Moses Rischin's panegyric to Hector St. John de Crèvecoeur provides food for thought about the man Rischin labels America's first ethnic. But it is John Higham's thoughtful piece on "Integrating America: The Problem of Assimilation in the Nineteenth Century" that pulls it all together to place the study of ethnicity in the larger context of American history.

THE MARCH of "progress" and its ramifications are chronicled in *The Structuring of a State: The History of Illinois, 1899 to 1928*, by Donald F. Tingley (Urbana, University of Illinois Press, 1980, 431 p., \$20.00). Beginning with the turn-of-the-century optimism about the future of the world, the nation, and the state, the author examines developments in agriculture, industry, politics, social reform, the arts, and popular culture before concluding, at the brink of the Great Depression, that Illinoisians paid a certain price for material gain. The portrait of a turbulent era, the book is both well written and well documented. Photographs of period personalities and an excellent bibliography round out the work.

AN INFORMATIVE and very readable volume, entitled *A Guide to Swedish Minnesota* (Minneapolis, Minnesota American Swedish Council, 1980, 57 p., \$4.00) and edited by Emeroy Johnson introduces visitors to the state and concisely describes Swedish settlement and history in the Twin Cities, Duluth, and 17 counties. Each brief essay is followed by a driving tour of the area, with points of interest listed at the end.

WORKING On The Railroad (Waseca, Waseca County Historical Society, 1980, 16 p., \$1.00) is a fine addition to the literature on railroads and county history. The outgrowth of a conference and museum exhibit, the book examines how "railroads affected all aspects of life in the county." Topics such as settlement history, passenger trains, the depot, freight trains, the roundhouse, changes in railroading, and the railroad as a way of life are discussed and illustrated with photographs from the Waseca County collection. *Working On The Railroad* is available from the Waseca County Historical Society, 315 2nd Avenue, N.E., Waseca 56093.

TWO bibliographies in the Occasional Papers series of the Society for German-American Studies constitute a helpful interdisciplinary resource. Paper number 6, *The Minnesota-Germans: A Working Bibliography* (1979, 12 p., \$1.25 postpaid), includes English- and German-language sources drawn from newspapers, magazines, and books. Number 9, *German-American Bibliography for 1979 With Supplements for 1971-1978* (1980, 105 p., \$6.00 postpaid) is similar in format and in addition contains indexes of names and of coauthors, editors, reviewers, and translators. Both are available from the editor, Steven M. Benjamin, Department of Foreign Languages, West Virginia University, Morgantown, West Virginia 26506.

REGIONAL similarities and differences are examined in *The Great Lakes States of America: People, Politics, and Power in the Five Great Lakes States*, by Neal R. Peirce and John Keefe (New York, W. W. Norton and Co., 1980, 373 p., \$16.95). It is the ninth and last in a series "covering the story of each major geographic region and all of the 50 states of America in our time." After an opening chapter which characterizes the area as "the troubled heartland," the authors devote individual chapters to the politics and institutions of Indiana, Wisconsin, Michigan, Illinois, and Ohio. (These last three are reprinted from the first book in the series, *The Megastates of America*.) A list of persons interviewed and a regional bibliography are appended.

"ONE of the more complex periods in the history of the United States" is the subject of Eugene H. Berwanger's in-depth study, *The West and Reconstruction* (Urbana, University of Illinois Press, 1981, 294 p., \$18.95). Pointing out that historians have tended generally to ignore the role of westerners in post-Civil War restoration of the South, the author corrects that omission and clarifies the link between trans-Mississippi politics and national issues such as reunification, suffrage, and federalism. Numerous examples of Minnesota reactions are described — particularly on black enfranchisement efforts from 1865 to 1868. Berwanger used a large number of manuscript and newspaper collections in his research, including those of the MHS. The result is a carefully documented, pioneering work, complete with a bibliography, an index, and, happily, footnotes at the bottom of each page.



Copyright of **Minnesota History** is the property of the Minnesota Historical Society and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. Users may print, download, or email articles, however, for individual use.

To request permission for educational or commercial use, [contact us](#).