

REVIEWS OF BOOKS

The Trans-Mississippi West (1803-1853): A History of Its Acquisition and Settlement. By CARDINAL GOODWIN, PH. D., professor of American history in Mills College. (New York, D. Appleton and Company, 1922. 528 p. Maps.)

During the past generation, within the period so much influenced by Frederick Jackson Turner, as a matter of fact, there has been much specialized work in the field of western history. While the soil is still far from being thoroughly tilled there has been accumulated a goodly crop of studies which make the work of synthesis more possible than even a few years ago. With the accumulation it would appear that, tentatively at least, something in the way of a summary, a compendious view, could be attempted. Some years ago Frederic L. Paxson, in his *Last American Frontier*, ventured into the field. Now Cardinal Goodwin, in the *Trans-Mississippi West*, tries his hand at an earlier period, the half century after the purchase of Louisiana.

In a certain sense Mr. Goodwin had a virgin field. He had an opportunity to bring together within the covers of a single volume a synthesis of the labors of others illuminated by his own interpretation. To a degree, so far as the first factor is concerned, he has performed the task; the illumination, however, is conspicuous by its almost entire absence. This is not an inspiring book, despite the fact that it deals with one of the most romantic phases of American history; the lack of inspiration is evident both in form and in substance. Not only is it dry reading, but it brings no new point of view. It does not stimulate the reader to delve further for treasures the existence of which at least could have been indicated even though the limits of the book made impossible the inclusion of detailed accounts of the materials available.

Minnesota belongs in part to the Trans-Mississippi West, and, while one would expect no very large space to be given to this relatively small part of the total region under consideration, one is astonished at the slight attention paid to it. One of the best chapters of the book is that dealing with "The American Fur

Trade and Commerce in the West," and here, certainly, the reader legitimately may expect to find something of the trade of the Northwest. But almost no mention is made of it. Names like those of Henry H. Sibley and Ramsay Crooks do not appear. Indeed, if one were to take this book as an authentic account of the Trans-Mississippi West in the half century it covers, one would conclude that little or no activity occurred outside the Rocky Mountain trade.

One chapter is entitled "Early American Settlement of Iowa and Minnesota." Of the twenty-eight pages allowed this topic, somewhat under six are allotted to Minnesota. Perhaps this proportion is correct, for prior to 1853 settlement north of Iowa had not made much progress. Nevertheless, out of 507 pages of text, one might logically expect to find more than some twenty, all told, dealing more or less directly with the upper western Mississippi Valley.

If disappointment comes to one who seeks to find an adequate, though condensed, account of the North Star State, little more satisfaction is found in several other phases. In the discussion of the fur trade as a whole, for example, there is not very much more than an epitome of Chittenden's volumes. The Pacific Northwest, which is the theme of four complete chapters and a portion of the subject of two others, has allotted to it enough space for rather thorough treatment; nevertheless, what with the method of arrangement which lends itself to some duplication of account, this region is not much more convincingly treated than is the old Minnesota territory.

Constantly the reader wonders why certain names do not appear: why, for instance, that of Robert J. Walker never arises in connection with the acquisition of Texas; why Peter Skene Ogden is left out.

When the organization of Missouri is the topic, as it is in a part of chapter 3, the reaction of the people of that prospective state to congressional legislation would seem to warrant at least as full an account as is given to what took place in Washington. No story of the Trans-Mississippi West can be told without considerable discussion of the racial elements which made up its population. Only here and there, however, is this matter adverted to.

Perhaps one of the most striking characteristics of the volume is the more or less skillful manner in which the author manages to dodge controversial issues. That there was controversy one does gather at times, but, on the whole, no reader unfamiliar with the period and the field would have the faintest conception of the battles which raged about so many factors. The question of public lands and their disposal scarcely rises to the surface; the tale of the acquisition of Texas and its aftermath reads as placidly as a novel by Anthony Trollope. There is no color in the story of one of the most colorful periods and fields of American history. Mr. Goodwin may have squatted on the field but his preëmption rights are by no means secure.

One of the most admirable features of the work is the bibliographical note at the end of each chapter. While there are some surprising gaps, these notes form a pretty good summary of the major literature of the subject; somewhat less attention than might be hoped is paid to the publications of the various historical societies. The index is fairly full and adequate.

LESTER BURRELL SHIPPEE

A History of Agriculture in Wisconsin (Wisconsin Domesday Book, General Studies, vol. 1). By JOSEPH SCHAFER. (Madison, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1922. xiii, 212 p. Illustrations, maps.)

This volume does not purport in the first instance to be a complete history of agriculture in Wisconsin; it is, rather, a "general introduction to the *Town Studies* of the *Wisconsin Domesday Book*." Most readers of the MINNESOTA HISTORY BULLETIN will be familiar with Mr. Schafer's plans for the *Domesday Book* and with his ideas as to the advantages of a "microscopical" or sample method of studying history. In as much as the first volume of Mr. Schafer's *Town Studies* is now in press, we shall soon have a chance to adjudge the merits of the whole program. When the time came to cast the data for the twenty-five towns (townships is the popular designation) included in this volume "it was seen," says Mr. Schafer, "that the matter on each town could be treated in much smaller compass . . . if there was a comprehensive sketch of the history of agriculture in the state to

which on all general topics one could simply refer, instead of repeating such matter in the texts pertaining to the separate towns." This is the genesis of the present volume. The author hopes, however, that it will also serve as a tentative sketch of the history of agriculture until such time as the intensive local studies shall furnish the basis for a better one.

As an introduction to the *Domesday* series, the present volume serves admirably. First of all, it gives a spirited account of the early rush into the southwestern lead diggings; of the new and larger migration which set in very shortly over the Erie Canal and the Great Lakes, mostly from New York, New England, and Ohio; of how this movement was supplemented presently by immigrants from Germany, Norway, Great Britain, Switzerland, and Canada; of how these various groups of settlers selected their land, developed their holdings, and in a remarkably short time made farms out of all the readily available land of what Mr. Schafer calls Wisconsin's "Old South"; of how wheat, the lure which first drew the New Yorkers and Vermonters to Wisconsin, by its succession of very fat and very lean years gambled with their destinies, till, especially after 1870, they either became discouraged and moved on, or turned to corn, hogs, and cattle; of the waxing and waning of wool production; of the early influences which gave Wisconsin its present eminence in dairy farming; of, finally, how the very movement which had peopled Wisconsin in the forties and fifties, in the seventies and eighties swept the population of Wisconsin on into Minnesota, the Dakotas, Nebraska, and Kansas, until in 1890 nearly a quarter of a million of its natives were found by census-takers to be living outside its borders, and Wisconsin's "New North" was left stranded in the lee of the current. One chapter gives a good account of the development of improved livestock in Wisconsin. Another traces the relationship of lumbering and farming in the settlement period.

A second way in which the present volume serves as a good introduction to the *Domesday* studies is that by its use of data from the town studies themselves, it gives us a chance to see how valuable these studies are going to be. In particular, the careful analysis of the census data of 1850 and of the early land office records reconstructs a clear and accurate picture of

the first stages of settlement. The foretaste which is thus given of the town studies arouses a keen appetite for more.

As a history of agriculture in Wisconsin, of course, this first volume has many shortcomings. It is, after all, mostly a history of Wisconsin agriculture before 1870; and surely Wisconsin agricultural history since 1880 is more significant than all Wisconsin agricultural history before 1880. It treats inadequately many phases of Wisconsin agricultural history—for example, the development of railroads, markets, and tenure systems.

As agricultural history, it is characteristic of the species in many ways. Mr. Schafer was reared on a farm, as all good agricultural historians should be—but only on a farm in southwestern Wisconsin, which, being interpreted, means that he does not know farming as it was practiced in his boyhood in other parts of the state. Second, it is some time since Mr. Schafer lived on a farm, which means that his ideas of what has happened since his youth have been obtained from miscellaneous sources. One of these is the farm papers, which are always tainted with propaganda. When Mr. Schafer applies his microscopical methods to the best official records of the years 1890 to 1920, he will find that what was actually happening with the farmers in various parts of the state is likely to be different in many details from what was being advocated and discussed at the time by farm journals, agricultural college professors, and the like. The taint of propaganda is most evident, as one would expect, in the discussion of dairying and farming in the cut-over districts. Dean Henry's *Northern Wisconsin*, he will find, is better immigration literature than source material. Third, although Mr. Schafer knows technical agriculture surprisingly well, he does not know it well enough. Fourth, the economic forces are very inadequately presented. How, for example, can one discuss properly the shifts in systems of farming without making use of the economic principles determining choice of enterprises, the law of comparative advantage and its corollaries? Fifth, the influence of climate upon the development of Wisconsin agriculture is very largely ignored—and it is a very important influence. Sixth, the influences of soil and topography are only partly presented. The history of Wisconsin agriculture

ought to explain, it seems to the reviewer, how Adams County or Kewaunee County, for example, has come to be what it is. Seventh, more care could well be given to the statistical coefficients used in making comparisons between counties and census periods.

It is, of course, almost physically impossible that one person shall qualify in all the foregoing respects. Mr. Schafer is an unusually good combination, but he needs more help from others than historians before he can make first-class history of the town studies. Even at that, Mr. Schafer's reporting of developments since 1880 is probably better agriculture than it is history.

It is apparent from the very frontispiece, which is labeled "Wisconsin — Land Fertile and Fair," that Wisconsin is going to be somewhat glorified in the *Domesday Book*. The people of Wisconsin will like the series — no doubt Mr. Schafer wants them to.

JOHN D. BLACK

South Dakota Historical Collections. Volume II. Compiled by the State Department of History. (Pierre, Hipple Printing Company, 1922. 600 p. Illustrations.)

This volume, like others of the series to which it belongs, is made up of miscellaneous papers. For example, it includes a reprint of reports of Lieutenant G. K. Warren upon his explorations in Dakota and Nebraska from 1855 to 1858, a general summary of the progress of South Dakota during 1921 and 1922, a list of newspapers on file in the offices of the department of history, and, last but not least, reprints *in toto* of selected numbers of five frontier newspapers of Dakota Territory. In addition to the reports of Lieutenant Warren, the following articles will have special interest for students of the history of Minnesota and the Northwest: "Recollections of Ft. La Ramboise in 1862 and the Rescue of Lake Chetak Captives," by Charles P. Barbier; "Basil Clement (Claymore)," an account of trading and exploring expeditions on the upper Missouri and Platte rivers, by Charles Edmund DeLand; "The Last Buffalo Hunt," by the Reverend Thomas L. Riggs; and an account of the opening of the Rosebud Reservation in 1904.

The reprinting in full of selected issues of rare newspapers in a volume of this kind is something of a novelty and is, therefore, worthy of note. It is to be doubted whether this method could be followed on a large scale, however, on account of the expense, for the reprint of one number of the *Democrat* alone occupies thirty pages of the volume. The section entitled "Newspapers of South Dakota," which contains the reprints, opens with a brief account of the establishment of the *Democrat*, the first newspaper printed within the geographical limits of Dakota Territory, at Sioux Falls in 1859, and then presents a list of early Dakota newspapers with notes concerning them. Unfortunately the writer, presumably Mr. Doane Robinson, has incorporated in this otherwise valuable account a sketch of the Albright Press, which he still maintains is the original Goodhue press on which the *Minnesota Pioneer*, the first newspaper in Minnesota, was printed. When the authenticity of the old hand press now preserved in the museum of the Minnesota Historical Society as the original Goodhue press was first challenged in the fall of 1919, the present reviewer made an investigation of the matter and adduced considerable evidence to prove that the Goodhue press never left Minnesota, but continued in honorable service on various newspapers practically up to the time of its purchase by the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* in 1905. The results of this investigation, which were made public in the MINNESOTA HISTORY BULLETIN for February, 1920, are ignored by Mr. Robinson. Instead, he reprints a brief article from the *Palimpsest* by John C. Parish containing several errors, to which attention has already been called in the BULLETIN. (See *ante*, 3: 532.) Mr. Robinson's article does not strengthen the claims for the Albright press. It is simply a reassertion of the claim without the presentation of any evidence.

The volume under review is well bound, printed on good paper, and supplied with an index and a table of contents. Typographical errors, however, such as "membeship" for "membership" (p. 7) and "Waren" for "Warren" (p. 60), both in captions where they could easily have been caught by the proof reader, mar the otherwise attractive appearance of the book.

WILLOUGHBY M. BABCOCK, JR.

Statement to the Nineteen Hundred Twenty-three Legislature.

By RAY P. CHASE, state auditor. (N. p., n. d. 106 p. Illustrations, maps.)

Under this colorless heading Mr. Chase has presented a comprehensive survey of the state park situation in Minnesota. It is an unbiased statement of facts and conditions, the keynote of which is sounded in the first paragraph. "A state park system is either a good thing or it is a bad thing. It either benefits the people of the state sufficiently to warrant the expenditure of public monies, or it is of so little benefit that public funds should not be expended to create or preserve such a system." If state parks are a good thing and should be retained, then, in Mr. Chase's opinion, control over them should be vested in some commissioner or commission instead of being divided among a number of state officials in various departments.

A statement of "What Other States Have Done," written by Frank Nutter, a landscape architect and engineer of Minneapolis, comprises the first part of the report and serves to throw light upon the general problem. In this the development of park administration in Massachusetts, Rhode Island, New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Iowa, and Wisconsin is explained. Mr. Chase then enumerates Minnesota's state parks, describing in each case the location, improvements, and general conditions, and stating the amount of the annual appropriations for maintenance. In offering suggestions for numerous additional parks Mr. Chase adopts the principle that a state park system should benefit as large a proportion of the people of the state as possible.

Since the adequate preservation and marking of historic places are matters closely allied to the problem of state parks, the report devotes considerable attention to historic sites in Minnesota and lists a number of monuments and other markers. Specific suggestions are offered as to the further development of this work.

Great credit is due to the compiler of this report for assembling this material and for presenting it in usable form. The pamphlet is profusely illustrated and is supplied throughout with detailed maps prepared by the commissioner of highways. It is to be regretted that no index has been provided and that the table of contents is incomplete. Nevertheless the report will prove a use-

ful handbook of information to those who desire to study the state park situation in Minnesota.

WILLOUGHBY M. BABCOCK, JR.

The Story of the North Star State. By DANIEL E. WILLARD, A. M., formerly professor of geology, State Agricultural College of North Dakota. (St. Paul, Webb Publishing Company, 1922. 395 p. Illustrations, maps, charts.)

The title of this book might be supposed to imply that it contains a history of the settlement and development of Minnesota as a territory and a state. Instead it describes the ancient topographic and geologic features of this area, treating quite fully of the Ice Age and its drift formations, the prairies and forests, the peat bogs, the diverse soils and their values for farming, and the flora and fauna. The last seven chapters, comprising more than a hundred pages, are entitled "Geology from a Car Window" and note the bedrocks, glacial drift, terraces and plains of modified drift, morainic hills and lakes, and the eroded gorges, valleys, and flood plains of the present rivers, as seen by the traveler along the railways of the state. Other chapters describe and map glacial Lake Agassiz, which occupied the Red River Valley in the closing stage of the glacial period, its outflow by the River Warren in the courses of the Minnesota and Mississippi rivers, the similarly ice-dammed Lake Duluth, the lakes and rivers of Freeborn County, the remarkable chains of lakes in Martin County, the Dalles of the St. Croix, the Falls of St. Anthony, and the Vermilion, Mesabi, and Cuyuna iron ore ranges.

Twenty maps and 135 other text figures, chiefly from photographs, well illustrate this volume, which is written in simple language for "the great reading public of Minnesota," and for use in schools as a "home geography." Its general plan follows the author's earlier book for North Dakota, *The Story of the Prairies* (Chicago, 1902), which has been widely used in its schools. The people of the states treated in these two volumes should be no less interested in the story of the geography and geology, the creation and evolution, of these states than in accounts of their more recent human history.

WARREN UPHAM

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES

The legislature, which has just adjourned as this issue of the BULLETIN goes to press, granted four thousand dollars of the ten thousand dollar increase in its annual appropriation asked by the society, making the total forty-four thousand dollars. In view of the commendable desire on the part of the legislature for economy in state expenditures, this increase is all that could reasonably be expected. It is to be regretted, however, that, of the sum appropriated, twenty thousand dollars can be used only "for equipment, travel and office expenses," as this restriction makes impossible greatly needed increases in the staff.

The additions to the active membership during the first three months of 1923 numbered sixty-eight. In the following list of the names of these new members it will be noted that fifteen Minnesota counties and four states other than Minnesota are represented:

BLUE EARTH: Benjamin D. Smith of Mankato.

BROWN: August Hummel of New Ulm and H. Frank Scobie of Sleepy Eye.

FREEBORN: Andrew W. Johnson of Albert Lea.

GOODHUE: Frances Densmore of Red Wing.

HENNEPIN: O. Ralph Anderson, John E. Blegen, Mrs. Eugene Fogg, William T. Fraser, Mrs. Myra Griswold, Dunham Jackson, Manly S. Jackson, Emily D. McMillan, James A. Peterson, Mrs. Harry Share, John F. Sinclair, Mrs. Bertha K. Smith, and Elizabeth Underwood, all of Minneapolis.

MCLEOD: Sam G. Anderson and Percy E. Avery of Hutchinson.

MOWER: Orson R. Steffens of Racine.

OLMSTEAD: Clair A. Chapman of Rochester.

RAMSEY: George R. Dane, Mrs. Mabel I. DeVinny, Otto Hall, David G. Hedberg, Mrs. Thomas B. Jennings, Wesley E. King, Mrs. L. D. Libbey, August J. Lindvall, Axel E. Lundholm, Frank B. Millard, Amy C. Moon, William F. Peet, Mrs. Emma H. Perkins, Clarence W. Rife, Litton E. Shields, Edward Swenson, and John H. Wolterstorff, all of St. Paul.

REDWOOD: Dr. William A. Brand, Dr. Herman B. Cole, Arthur P. Falk, Dr. James W. Inglis, Marion Johnson, Charles Luscher, Mrs. A. D. McRae, Matthew J. Odlaug, and John B. Philbrick, all of Redwood Falls.

RENVILLE: Frank Hopkins and the Reverend W. E. Mahle of Fairfax.

ST. LOUIS: Arthur P. Folsom of Buhl; Clarence H. Barnes, John H. Hearing, Mrs. William A. McGonagle, Andrew H. Markkanen, and Oscar L. Mather of Duluth; Peter Schaefer of Ely; and Dr. Bertram S. Adams and C. E. Everett of Hibbing.

WASECA: Olney K. Long of Janesville and Fred W. Senn of Waseca.

YELLOW MEDICINE: John J. Mooney of Granite Falls.

NON-RESIDENT: Victor Albjerg of Council Bluffs, Iowa; Frank M. Anderson of Hanover, New Hampshire; Thompson C. Elliott of Walla Walla, Washington; Mrs. James Hillman of Fort Dodge, Iowa; John P. Nash of Berkeley, California; and Augustus S. Prescott of Sheldon, Iowa.

The St. Louis County Historical Society took out an institutional membership in this period.

The society has lost seven active members by death during the three months ending March 30, 1923: Thomas Bardon of Ashland, Wisconsin, February 2; the Reverend George C. Tanner of Minneapolis, February 13; George A. Du Toit of Chaska, February 20; Dr. Arthur M. Eastman of Minneapolis, February 24; Trevanion W. Hugo of Duluth, February 27; Mason W. Tyler of Minneapolis, March 15; and Ernest T. Critchett of Minneapolis, March 25; also one corresponding member, Henry C. Campbell, of Milwaukee, January 2. The deaths of two other corresponding members, L. Bradford Prince of Santa Fé, New Mexico, December 8, 1922, and Frederick B. Wright of Kensington, Maryland, December 12, 1922, have not previously been reported in the BULLETIN.

The public libraries of Ironton, Chatfield, and Little Falls; the Carlton High School; and the state teachers' colleges of Bemidji and Moorhead have become subscribers to the society's publications during the first quarter of 1923.

The traveling exhibit of the society was displayed in the Duluth Public Library after its use at the meeting of the St. Louis County Historical Society on March 5.

The increase in the use of the society's library has not yet lost its impetus. During January, February, and March 13,216 books were served to 2,008 readers in the main reading room. This is 80 per cent more than the number for the first quarter of 1922, which, in turn, was 80 per cent more than that for the first quarter of 1921. March, which is usually the busiest month of the year, saw 5,162 books served as compared with 3,600 for March, 1922. The number of readers was 850, an average of 33 a day; and the average number of books served each day was 198. On the busiest day of the month, 380 books were served to 51 different readers, and at one time it was noted that 27 persons were working in the reading room at once.

The impossibility, with the present limited staff of cataloguers, of classifying and cataloguing all incoming material for the library has now been definitely recognized, and plans have been worked out for dividing the books into two groups. All those which are not likely to be immediately needed in the library are put in what is called the deferred group. These are arranged by themselves alphabetically in a section of the bookstack set apart for the purpose, and there they will have to remain until the cataloguing staff is increased. A single card for each book is filed in the official catalogue in order to prevent the accession of duplicates. The library of the Swedish Historical Society of America, which was turned over to the society on permanent deposit a couple of years ago, is in the same situation as this deferred group; that is, it is arranged alphabetically and the books are accessioned, but no classification or cataloguing has been possible.

The practical value of the archives work done by the society has been well illustrated during the recent session of the state legislature. Among the records turned over to the society by the secretary of state a few years ago were some territorial legislative papers which had been reposing, presumably since their removal from the Old Capitol, in a couple of gunny sacks under a bench in one of the sub-basement shipping rooms of the New

Capitol. Included among these documents — which have now been cleaned, pressed, arranged, and filed — are the papers of a territorial building commission. During the winter the attorney-general's office was asked by a legislative committee for an opinion as to the right of the state to sell the property on which the Old Capitol is located, it being a tradition that in case it were not used for state purposes this property would revert to the heirs of Charles Bazille, who gave the site to the territory in 1851. The attorney-general's office found that the deed as recorded contained a reference to the formal tender of the property and, consequently, wished to see that document. The aid of the society was enlisted and in a short time the desired document was located among the papers of the territorial building commission just referred to. It is reported that this document makes it certain that the state possesses unconditional title to the property in question. Its discovery, therefore, may be a matter of considerable legal and financial importance.

Another instance of the importance of the society's archival work was furnished shortly after the House of Representatives established a special committee on reorganization of state government. The attention of the committee was called to the fact that the society has in its archives collection all the papers, consisting of minutes, correspondence, reports from state departments, and scrapbooks, of the efficiency and economy commission appointed by Governor Eberhart and also of the legislative commission which followed it; and the chairman of the committee made an examination of this material. Copies of the printed reports of the Eberhart commission also were furnished for the use of the new committee.

Arrangements have been made for the calendaring for the society and a number of similar institutions in other states in the Northwest of the great collection of the American Fur Company papers in the library of the New York Historical Society, and this work is now under way. It is expected that photostatic copies of such of these documents as are of special importance for Minnesota history will be secured in the course of time.

Four illustrated lectures have been given in the museum by the curator during the first three months of 1923, three to high

school classes and one to a group of Camp Fire Girls. Two other organizations, one of which was the Cosmopolitan Club of the University of Minnesota, have held meetings in the museum rooms and the Daughters of the American Revolution held a reception there on February 23 which was attended by about 150 people. At the meeting of the Cosmopolitan Club the superintendent gave an illustrated talk on "Cosmopolitan Aspects of Minnesota History," in which he called attention to the French, Spanish, and British interest in Minnesota in the early period, to the problems connected with the international boundary, and, finally, to the various immigrant elements that have contributed to the development of the state.

An audience of about two hundred witnessed the third annual costume show in the museum on Washington's birthday. The parts in a dialogue entitled "The Great American Family," which effectively explained the costumes exhibited in a series of living pictures, were taken by Mrs. Solon J. Buck and Mr. Franklin F. Holbrook. The dialogue was written by Mr. Babcock.

Commercial concerns in the Twin Cities are making increasing use of the museum collections of the society. During the first quarter of 1923 material for display purposes has been loaned to five Twin City concerns. In addition, the first postoffice of St. Paul was exhibited at a meeting of the Fourth District Federation of Women's Clubs in the Wilder Building, St. Paul, on February 27, and at a meeting of the Fortnightly Study Club the next day in the St. Paul Public Library.

Three members of the staff, the superintendent, the curator of the museum, and the curator of manuscripts, attended the annual meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association at Oklahoma City, March 29 to 31. Mr. Buck delivered the presidential address of the organization and Miss Nute read a paper at the meeting. On the way back to St. Paul, Miss Nute stopped at St. Louis to make an inventory of material for Minnesota history in the manuscript collection of the Missouri Historical Society. Mr. Babcock went from Oklahoma City to Charleston, South Carolina, to attend a meeting of the American Museum Association, at one session of which, on April 6, he spoke on "The Training of Historical Museum Personnel."

During January, February, and March the superintendent has spoken seven times before different organizations on Minnesota history and the work of the society, one of the talks being at Hutchinson and the others in the Twin Cities. On February 26 the curator of the museum gave an illustrated talk on Minnesota history before the Kiwanis Club of St. Cloud. The assistant superintendent has given several talks on Minnesota history during the quarter, and on March 27 he addressed a conference of high school teachers at the university on the teaching of Minnesota history in the high schools and explained a syllabus which he has prepared to facilitate this work. This syllabus has been mimeographed by the college of education of the university.

ACCESSIONS

The work of reproducing the photostatic copies of the American Fur Company's letter books which have been borrowed from the State Historical Society of Wisconsin has been completed (see *ante*, p. 61). The material consists of copies of official letters written between 1816 and 1828 by the company's resident agent at Mackinac, Robert Stuart, and throws much light on the activities of the company in the Northwest. The nature of the outfits sent to the several posts, the instructions to traders, the routes followed, and the rivalry with the Hudson's Bay Company are among the many subjects which may be studied in these informing fur-trade documents.

Copies are being made of two manuscript diaries of Lewis Harrington for the years 1855 and 1856 which have been loaned to the society by Mr. Harry L. Merrill of Hutchinson, a son-in-law of Harrington. The latter, a surveyor and farmer who came to Minnesota in April, 1855, from Dalton, Ohio, was one of the founders of Hutchinson, and his diaries tell of pioneer life in that community. Part of the entry for November 21, 1855, reads: "Came to Glencoe at night organized Hutchinson Co. in evening &c." On December 5, the diaryist writes: "Sent oxen out for load fixed for going to Hutchinson." On July 2, 1856, he describes a hunt in which he caught a bear. The next day he records a visit by Sioux Indians who displayed Chippewa scalps

and plunder. Other Harrington diaries, which carry the record into the sixties, will be received later from Mr. Merrill for copying.

Most of the papers left by the late Maria Sanford, whose biography was reviewed in the last number of the *BULLETIN*, are now in the possession of the society. To the two boxes of papers formerly received, five more have been added through the courtesy of Miss Mary Kirtland of Minneapolis, a niece of Miss Sanford. The manuscripts contain much valuable material which has not been used in the published biography. The society desires to build up a collection of historical materials which will illuminate all phases of the state's history, and the preservation of the papers of this prominent Minnesota woman and educator will be gratifying both to her admirers and to students of the cultural development of the Northwest. By request some of the papers are to be withheld from the public until 1931.

The collection of documents relating to the Nelson-Kindred congressional campaign of 1882 which has been received from Senator Knute Nelson through the courtesy of Mr. Elmer E. Adams of Fergus Falls is an important addition to the society's materials on the political history of Minnesota. The papers are described in footnotes 10, 11, and 14 of Mr. Adams' article in the present number of the *BULLETIN*.

One of Abraham Lincoln's last signatures is now, through the courtesy of Mr. Walter Clark of Minneapolis, in the custody of the society. The autograph was appended on April 12, 1865, to a commission appointing "Edwin Clark of Minnesota . . . to be Agent for the Chippewas of the Mississippi, Pillager and Lake Winnebagoishish bands, and the Indians of Red Lake and Pembina."

A manuscript copy of an autobiography entitled "Forty Years of Journalism" has been presented by the author, Mr. Frank A. Carle of Minneapolis. College days at the University of Michigan, a newspaper reporter's training, sharp political campaigns of the eighties and nineties, and reminiscences of prominent men and women are among the many interesting topics discussed by

the author. Mr. Carle's long acquaintance with the Twin Cities and his experiences in connection with local journalism add value and interest to the account of his experiences, and his unusually varied and rich friendships lend human flavor to his pages.

A copy of a paper on "The Friendly Ojibways of the Lake Superior Country" has been presented to the society by its author, Mr. William E. Culkin, who read it at the annual meeting of the Old Settlers of the Head of the Lakes in Duluth on December 13. Through the courtesy of Mr. Culkin the society has received also a manuscript copy of Mr. J. H. Darling's paper on "The Development of Lake Superior," which was read at the January meeting of the St. Louis County Historical Society.

Several papers relating to F. O. Nilsson, a Baptist clergyman exiled from Sweden because of his religious beliefs, have been presented by Mr. Swen Bernard of St. Paul. Nilsson came to the United States in 1853 and was a missionary in Houston County, Minnesota. A short account of Nilsson, pictures of his birthplace and of himself, and a photograph of a petition for the removal of the Swedish sentence of exile are included in the gift.

A collection of Civil War letters has been presented by Mr. Nelson Flint of North St. Paul. The letters, which were written by Mr. Flint's father, Frank S. Flint of Benton County, are accompanied by a number of old deeds and other family papers, and three issues of the *Winchester Army Bulletin*, a newspaper printed by the Union forces at Winchester, Tennessee, in the summer of 1863.

Several valuable additions have been made recently to the society's large picture collection. Mrs. Cora N. Elwell of Los Angeles, California, has presented a framed crayon portrait of her father, the late Calvin A. Tuttle, who came to Minnesota as a millwright to assist in the erection of the first sawmill at the Falls of St. Anthony. A photographic copy of a crayon portrait of Judge Isaac N. Cardozo, the acquisition of whose papers was noted in the February BULLETIN, has been presented by his daughter, Miss Ellen Cardozo of St. Paul. A set of lantern slides of the mayors of St. Paul from 1854 to 1923 has been received

from Mr. Caryl Spiller, director of the St. Paul Institute. The collection is complete save for a portrait of John E. Warren, who served as mayor of the city in 1863. The Honorable Ray P. Chase, state auditor, has turned over to the society sixty cuts for the maps and illustrations in his recent report on state parks. A number of these were made from pictures in the society's collection.

A set of plates for a series of base maps of Minnesota showing county divisions for each decennial year from 1850 to 1900 has been presented by the General Alumni Association of the University of Minnesota. The plates were made originally in connection with the preparation of Dr. Edward V. Robinson's book entitled *Early Economic Conditions and the Development of Agriculture in Minnesota*, which was published by the university in 1915. The society has had a supply of maps run off from each of the plates, and they are now available for the use of students of Minnesota history.

A valuable file of the *Madison Weekly Democrat*, an important Wisconsin newspaper, has been received from the State Historical Society of Wisconsin in exchange for the file of a Minnesota newspaper. The twenty-four volumes received cover the period from 1872 to 1905, with some omissions.

A gift of 30 books and nearly 150 pamphlets has been received from the Minnesota society of the Sons of the American Revolution, through its secretary, Mr. Charles H. Bronson, and Mr. Herbert C. Varney, both of St. Paul.

A scrapbook containing newspaper clippings, programs, and announcements relating to the Minnesota society of the Sons of the Revolution for the period from 1892 to the present has been presented by that organization through its secretary, Mr. J. B. Beals of St. Paul.

NEWS AND COMMENT

A thoughtful article on "State Historical Societies," by A. H. Shearer, is printed in the *Quarterly Journal* of the New York State Historical Association for October, 1922. The author compares state historical societies throughout the country as regards their discharge of four primary functions: "the interesting of people in the history of their state or locality," the correlation of the work of local historical societies, the preservation of records, and the issuing of publications.

An article on "The State and Historical Work," by Clarence E. Carter, which is published in the *Ohio History Teachers' Journal* for January, is an argument for more adequate state support of historical work in Ohio. The writer discusses the historical activities of many other states, including Minnesota, Illinois, Iowa, and Michigan.

An English periodical, the *Library Association Record*, carries an article in its August, 1922, number on the subject of "Collaboration in Historical Research," by Joan Wake. The writer urges collaboration on a wide scale, not only of public libraries and "record societies," but of universities, secondary and elementary schools, educational authorities, official and private custodians of records, and other institutions and individuals. The reason for such wide collaboration is found not merely in the "modern cry for organisation," but in the need of filling in with local details the framework of social and economic history.

A varied and interesting program contributed to the success of the sixteenth annual meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association, which was held at Oklahoma City from March 29 to 31. The presidential address was delivered by the superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society, Dr. Solon J. Buck, who took as his subject, "Progress and Possibilities of Mississippi Valley History." Minnesota was also represented on the program by Miss Grace Lee Nute, whose paper on "A Filibustering Expedition of 1836," dealt with the same subject

which she discussed at the annual meeting of the Minnesota Historical Society in January. At the session devoted to the general subject of state and local historical societies "Developing State Consciousness Through Historical Work" was discussed by Floyd C. Shoemaker; "Publication Activities of a State Historical Society," by Benjamin F. Shambaugh; and "The State Survey: Methods and Possibilities," by Herbert A. Kellar. Among the numerous other papers read at the meeting were: "The Economic Basis of the Populist Movement in Iowa," by H. C. Nixon; "Voluntary Military Organizations Just Previous to the Civil War," by Theodore G. Gronert; and "The Mercenary Factor in the Creation of the Union Army, 1861-1865," by Fred A. Shannon.

An article on "Old Franklin: A Frontier Town of the Twenties," by Jonas Viles, published in the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review* for March, demonstrates the historical possibilities in the careful study of typical small frontier communities by detailing the story of one Missouri town. The *Proceedings* of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association for 1920-21 contains a paper on "State and Local History," by Clarence H. McClure, and a suggestive article on "Popularizing State History," by Floyd Shoemaker. In the latter the methods employed by the State Historical Society of Missouri are described. "Popularizing history, especially state history," writes the author, "bears or should bear no import of provincial chauvinism. The latter is, in fact, usually strongest and most damaging where accurate history has not been democratized."

The *Transactions* of the Illinois State Historical Society for 1921 contains an article on "The Influence of Illinois in the Development of Abraham Lincoln," by William E. Barton. An essay on *Abraham Lincoln, Lawyer*, by Charles W. Moores, has been issued as volume 7, number 10 of the *Indiana Historical Society Publications*. Students of Lincoln will be interested in a new book by Nathaniel Wright Stephenson entitled *Lincoln: An Account of His Personal Life, Especially of Its Springs of Action as Revealed and Deepened by the Ordeal of War* (Indianapolis, 1922. 474 p.). The publication of a series of articles entitled

"In the Footsteps of Abraham Lincoln," by Ida M. Tarbell, was begun in the *Minneapolis Tribune* of February 18.

The Jesuits, 1534-1921: A History of the Society of Jesus from Its Foundation to the Present Time is the title of a volume by Thomas J. Campbell in which the entire story of the Jesuits and their world-wide activities is reviewed (New York, 1921. 937 p.). The broad scope of the work has forced the author to allot only a few pages to the history of the Jesuits in North America. Such names as Allouez, Menard, and Marquette are mentioned, but the Minnesota reader will look in vain for the names of Guignas and De Gonnor, for example, the two Jesuit fathers who accompanied La Perrière in 1727 and established the first Christian mission on Minnesota soil. If the book presents little information about the Jesuit missionaries to the Middle West, it does supply a broad account of Jesuit backgrounds, written in scholarly and interesting fashion by a present-day Jesuit.

Despite its general title, a Johns Hopkins University monograph on *The Canadian Reciprocity Treaty of 1854* (Baltimore, 1922. 96 p.), by Charles C. Tansill, contains nothing on the operation or abrogation of the treaty. The book is really a study of the making of the Elgin-Marcy treaty or a chapter in the life of William L. Marcy. The author apparently has made no use of some important official reports on the effects of the treaty upon Canadian relations in the twelve years after 1854, a subject of interest to students of Minnesota's relations to the Canadian Northwest.

The social customs of the Hidatsa, a Siouan tribe which, for protection, allied itself with the Mandan and lived with them on the Knife River in what is now North Dakota, are described in a profusely illustrated little volume entitled *Waheenee, An Indian Girl's Story*, by Gilbert L. Wilson (St. Paul, 1921. 189 p.). Although the stories which make up the book are told for children, they are also of interest to scientists and historians; for the author, who is a professor of anthropology at Macalester College, St. Paul, collected them in connection with a scientific study of the tribe.

Captain Fred A. Bill's latest contribution to the *Saturday Evening Post* of Burlington, Iowa, is a lengthy abstract of Mrs. Elizabeth F. Ellet's *Summer Rambles in the West* (New York, 1853). It begins in the *Post* for February 17 and consists of copious quotations bound together by Captain Bill's comments. "Rafting on the Upper River in the Old Days" by Captain J. W. Darrah, the opening installment of which appears in the *Post* for February 24, is a series of reminiscences of an early riverman.

An admirable summary of the economic history of the Northwest, with special reference to the development of the metropolitan area which centers in the Twin Cities, forms a part of *An Introduction to Economic History*, by Norman S. B. Gras (New York, 1922. 350 p.). Of Minneapolis and St. Paul the author writes, "Still administratively separate, they are, and long have been, a single economic unit, performing the one great function of concentrating in themselves the economic life of a vast area." The book is published as a volume in *Harper's Historical Series*, edited by Guy Stanton Ford.

Numerous speeches and papers, including a short account of "The Great Lakes-St. Lawrence Deep Waterway," by Henry B. Nolte, and an address on "Northwest Development," by John S. McLain, are printed in the *Proceedings* of the fifty-sixth annual convention of the Minnesota Editorial Association.

An historical pageant is to be given at Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, in June to commemorate the two hundred and fiftieth anniversary of the discovery of the Mississippi by Jolliet and Marquette.

The leading article in the *Wisconsin Magazine of History* for March is a delightful essay on "Wisconsin," by William Ellery Leonard, in which the author, a poet, writes down in glowing phrases his interpretation of the Badger State and its past. The penetrating study of "The Yankee and the Teuton in Wisconsin," by Joseph Schafer, is continued with a comparison of the two groups with reference to their distinctive traits as farmers. Several "America letters" written by Jacob and Ulrich Bühler in the period from 1847 to 1877, describing their journey to America and their experiences in Wisconsin, are translated and

published under the title, "A Swiss Family in the New World." The originals were located in Switzerland by the translator, Mr. Lowell J. Ragatz, a descendant of Jacob Bühler. Doubtless many packets of letters written by immigrants in Minnesota to friends and relatives in the Old World are still in existence, and would, if found and translated, throw interesting light upon some phases of Minnesota history.

A pamphlet on *The Draper Collection of Manuscripts*, by Joseph Schafer, has been issued by the State Historical Society of Wisconsin as a separate from the *Proceedings* of the society for 1922. The remarkable collection of sources gathered by Dr. Lyman C. Draper about the middle of the last century should be kept intact and whole where it now is preserved, open to all investigators, as Dr. Schafer wisely argues.

In the *Iowa Journal of History and Politics* for January, two important articles by Louis B. Schmidt, entitled "The Westward Movement of the Corn Growing Industry in the United States" and "An Unworked Field in Mississippi Valley History," are published. In the latter Mr. Schmidt points out the possibilities of the economic history of agriculture as a field for intensive study. The same magazine contains a long article on the "History of the Office of County Superintendent of Schools in Iowa," by Jay J. Sherman.

The Indiana Historical Commission has brought out as volume 2 in the series of *Indiana World War Records* a comprehensive study of how Indiana met the financial problems connected with its participation in the World War. The book, which is entitled *The War Purse of Indiana; The Five Liberty Loans and War Savings and Thrift Campaigns in Indiana during the World War*, is the work of Walter Greenough.

An article on "How Massachusetts Raised her Troops in the Revolution," by Jonathan Smith, in the *Proceedings* of the Massachusetts Historical Society for 1921-22, should be of interest, for purposes of comparison, to the readers of Dr. John D. Hicks's study in the MINNESOTA HISTORY BULLETIN for February, 1918, of "The Organization of the Volunteer Army in 1861 with Special Reference to Minnesota."

Volume 20 in the *Publications* of the Nebraska State Historical Society (Lincoln, 1922, 400 p.) consists of abstracts and quotations from the *Missouri Republican*, the *Missouri Intelligencer*, and other newspapers for the period from 1808 to 1861 — all the material relating to “the valleys or plains of the Missouri and Arkansas rivers (comprehensively The Nebraska Country) and of the contiguous mountain region.” The items are printed in a chronological sequence, and since there is no table of contents, the index must be used if the reader desires to pursue any one topic, such as the fur trade or the Indians or the mails, through the entire period. Probably some other scheme of organization would have added to the scholarly value of the work, but the reader is left in no doubt as to the historical value of the contemporary newspaper reports and views which are thus assembled; and the conglomeration doubtless constitutes, as the editor, Mr. Albert Watkins, observes, a “varied, vivid and often flash lit history.”

“A Visit to Red River, An Account Written in 1878 by an American Who Visited the Settlement” is the title of an interesting document published in the *Beaver* for November and December.

GENERAL MINNESOTA ITEMS

Next year will bring the seventy-fifth anniversaries of the organization of Minnesota Territory, of the establishment of the Minnesota Historical Society, and of the beginning of printing in Minnesota. Shall these and other events of 1849 be commemorated in 1924?

The ninetieth birthday of Dr. Folwell, which was celebrated on February 14, occasioned many newspaper articles dealing with the long career and varied achievements of the first president of the University of Minnesota. The keynote of these articles is sounded in the editorial of the *Minneapolis Journal* on February 14 entitled “Dr. Folwell, Young at Ninety.” A special “Folwell Birthday Number” of the *Minnesota Alumni Weekly*, dated February 13, contains an appreciation of Dr. Folwell as “Neighbor, Friend, Teacher,” by W. F. Webster, and a brief resumé of his career by E. B. Pierce.

"Myth-making and romancing have served to make many of the pioneer figures shadowy and unreal," according to an editorial in the *Minneapolis Journal* of January 17, occasioned by Dr. Folwell's address at the annual meeting of the Minnesota Historical Society. "Much better are they when pictured, as Cromwell thought men should be pictured, with their warts and wrinkles. They may thus lose some glamor, but they gain in reality."

In an article entitled "The Frontier and Local History," published in the *Hamline Review* for February, Mr. Theodore C. Blegen discusses the contribution of the pioneers, with special reference to Minnesota, to the study of American history "from the bottom up." The origins of the Minnesota Historical Society and particularly the views of Governor Ramsey regarding the collection of historical records are emphasized.

On May 15, 1922, a monument erected by the state of Minnesota was dedicated in the Jefferson Barracks National Cemetery in commemoration of 164 Minnesota soldiers in the Civil War who are buried there. Appropriate addresses were delivered on the occasion by General C. C. Andrews, Governor J. A. O. Preus, Mr. Henry B. Dike, Mr. Levi Longfellow, and others. These speeches, together with a list of the honored dead, are printed in the *Report of Minnesota Commission Appointed to Erect a Monument in the National Cemetery at Jefferson Barracks, Mo.* (1922. 38 p.). The Governor's address consists of an historical review of the service of Minnesota troops in Missouri during the Civil War.

The duplication and conventionality of the names applied to Minnesota lakes are pointed out by Perry S. Williams in an article in the *Minneapolis Journal* for March 18 as an argument for a constructive plan of renaming many lakes. In a letter published in the same newspaper for March 25 the assistant superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society calls attention to the fact that Minnesota boasts no less than ninety-nine Mud lakes, eighty-four Long lakes, seventy-five Rice lakes, thirty-five Twin lakes, and, in lesser numbers, an abundance of

Round, Clear, Bass, Crooked, Sand, Silver, Rush, Turtle, and Spring lakes. Careful study of the historical associations of a particular lake and its surroundings should precede its renaming. Local historical societies might find in this matter of place names a field for interesting work. The period of Indian occupation, the story of the French explorations and of the fur trade, and the history of Minnesota in its later development offer unusual opportunities for the selection of names that are historically significant and charming in sound. The historical society has indicated its willingness to cooperate with local communities with a view to finding appropriate place names.

In an address delivered in Minneapolis on January 5 Dr. William W. Folwell proposed the erection of a suitable monument in honor of Henry H. Sibley. He suggested that the state of Minnesota should acquire "an ample park space including Pilot Knob, just back of Mendota village . . . and erect there, within a few minutes walk of his old Mendota home, under the dome of the open sky, an imperishable monument of granite and bronze worthy of the man and of the state he named."

As an argument in favor of the expert administration of state parks and the proper marking of historic sites therein, which are being advocated by state auditor Ray P. Chase before the 1923 legislature, the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* of February 4 cites the case of the Birch Cooley battlefield. According to this article a monument bearing an erroneous inscription, erected on a site near the battlefield in 1894, has remained in its original state, although the land on which the battle actually occurred was purchased by the state in the following year. The preservation of historic sites of another type—the "original canoe trails in the north woods, over which white men first traveled to explore the wilds of northern Minnesota"—is proposed in a bill introduced in the legislature by Senator Fred Bessette on January 10.

"Five Objections Against the Kensington Rune Stone," all of a linguistic nature, are answered by Hjalmar R. Holand in *Scandinavian Studies and Notes* for November, 1922.

An article in the *Minneapolis Journal* for February 18 points out certain similarities between the legislature of 1859-60 and that of 1923. It is based upon a comparison made by Lieutenant Governor Louis L. Collins, which reveals the facts that legislative procedure has changed but little during the intervening period and that the proportion of farmers, attorneys, and foreign-born members is about the same now as it was in 1859.

The story of Jules Standing Buffalo, the son of Chief Standing Buffalo of the Sisseton band of the Sioux, and his journey to Washington to claim annuities which are said to have accumulated since the Sioux Outbreak of 1862, is told by Buffalo Child Long Lance in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for March 18. Standing Buffalo is one of a group of Sisseton Indians who escaped to Canada after the massacre. His father was an unsuccessful claimant in the Sisseton and Wahpeton claims case some twenty years ago.

The comprehensive series of articles by W. H. Brill on the highways of Minnesota continues in the Sunday issues of the *Minneapolis Tribune* from January 14 to March 25 with detailed descriptions of the first six of the trunk highways of the state. These articles contain much miscellaneous historical information, which is largely introduced in order to explain the origins of place names along the highways and is based mainly on Dr. Upham's *Minnesota Geographic Names; Their Origin and Historic Significance*.

The effect of Major Joseph R. Brown's "steam wagon" upon road legislation in Minnesota is noted in an article in the *Minneapolis Journal* for March 18 (see *ante*, 4: 190). The reader's attention is called to an act of the legislature of 1870 providing for roads specially constructed to accommodate Major Brown's strange vehicle. The illustrations include a picture of the "steam wagon" and a portrait of its inventor.

In a letter to the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, published on January 28, Captain Fred A. Bill summarizes the results of his investigations concerning the "Virginia," the first steamboat to come up the Mississippi to Fort St. Anthony, now Fort Snelling. Captain Bill accepts May 10, 1823, as the date of its arrival.

The Minnesota State Art Society, an interesting new Minnesota publication, made its appearance in February. The first number contains a brief historical sketch of the state art society and also a statement of the aims of the organization. Short articles appear on "The Women's Clubs of Minnesota and the State Art Society," "The Minneapolis Institute of Arts," and "The Art Forum." In the *Bulletin* of the Minneapolis Institute of Arts for March there is a brief article on "Early Days of the Society," prepared by Dr. William W. Folwell, who served as president of the Minneapolis Society of Fine Arts during the first five years of its existence.

A scholarly study of "Special Legislation in Minnesota," by William Anderson, appears in the January and February numbers of the *Minnesota Law Review*.

The diary of Colonel George E. Leach, commander of the 151st United States Field Artillery in the World War, is appearing serially in the Sunday issues of the *Minneapolis Tribune*. It opens with an entry for September 3, 1917, just before the "Gopher Gunners" left for France, in the *Tribune* for March 18; and the second installment carries the story to February 26, 1918, when Colonel Leach "went to the front line and saw some of the enemy positions for the first time." Later comments, which apparently have been written by Colonel Leach, are introduced in parentheses in the newspaper version.

LOCAL HISTORY ITEMS

Two recent meetings of the St. Louis County Historical Society, on January 2 and March 5, testify to the activity of this new organization. At the January meeting a paper on the "Early Navigation of Lake Superior and the Bringing of Supplies to the Head of the Lakes," by Trevanion W. Hugo, was read in the author's absence by George W. Buck. Other papers were presented on the "Early Physical History of Lake Superior and the Lake Superior Region," by J. H. Darling; the "History and Development of the Vegetable and Plant Life of the County," by Pauline Alford; and "The Early Literature of the County or the Writing of the Early Pioneers," by Alice M.

Dunlop. Four papers were read at the March meeting: the "History of Duluth Harbor," by J. D. Ensign; the "Story of Immigration to St. Louis County," by Albert B. Clarfield; the "Climate of Duluth and St. Louis County," by H. W. Richardson; and Miss Nute's study of the Dickson expedition of 1836 (see *ante*, p. 116-118).

A bit of legislation which passed the Minnesota Senate on March 27 and the House on April 4 may mark the beginning of a movement of great importance for historical work in Minnesota. This is an act which authorizes the county commissioners of St. Louis County to appropriate \$2,500 a year for the support of a county historical society approved by the Minnesota Historical Society. Several states have taken steps to promote local history through legislation of this character. If the present measure proves valuable in its application to St. Louis County, an amendment probably can be secured at some future session of the legislature to extend the provisions of the act to other counties.

A series of articles on the "Early History of Parke Township," by J. S. Hosack, beginning in the *Clay County Herald* of Hawley for February 16, is reprinted from the files of the same newspaper for 1900.

In an article on "Politics in 1879 to 1886, with Some Personal Recollections and Observations," in the *Morris Tribune* for January 19, Chief Justice Calvin L. Brown describes local political contests in Stevens County during the period indicated. Considerable attention is given to the Stevens County aspects of the Nelson-Kindred campaign of 1882.

"Reminiscences of Wabasha, 1850-1872," by a pioneer physician, Dr. P. C. Remondino, now of San Diego, California, appear in the *Wabasha Herald* from November 9 to March 29.

Quill and Scroll, a publication issued by the Chatfield High School, contains in its February number a series of essays which are printed under the general title, "History of Chatfield." This project in local history was undertaken by a senior English class

under the supervision of Miss Margaret Snyder. Each of the printed papers is signed by two members of the class. The scope of the work as a whole may be indicated by the topics of the essays or chapters: "Exploration and Land Office Days," "Indian Occupation and Early Game Life," "Naming the Town and Political Organization," "Early New England Settlers," "Prominent Figures," "Immigrants to Chatfield," "Social Life and Customs," "Railroads and Industries," "Chatfield in the Civil War," and "The School and the Press." In an introductory note the editor writes of the student authors, "They have drawn their material from a variety of sources, both older printed accounts, the personal reminiscences of Chatfield's older inhabitants, and some original documents to which they have been given access. They . . . are hopeful that their amateur efforts, which they have enjoyed, may perhaps help to arouse a fresh interest in the history of the community of which they are a part." In the course of the work the class learned of the existence of several manuscript diaries and of one important general collection of historical papers. The essays bear the marks of careful investigation and constitute a genuine contribution to the history of Chatfield. Their special value lies, however, in the fact that they are the work of Minnesota high school students and thus constitute a concrete illustration of the possibilities in local history study by high school classes.

A series of biographical sketches, entitled "Pioneers of Deerwood," appears in the *Deerwood Enterprise*, beginning with its issue of November 24. The articles, which are the work of the editor, A. J. Crone, are based upon careful investigation and should prove a valuable contribution to the history of Crow Wing County.

The past of Olmstead County will be reviewed in an historical pageant to be staged in connection with the county fair in August. Plans for the pageant are described in the *Rochester Daily Post and Record* for January 17.

Installments of a "History of Martin County: A Detailed and True Account of Its Early Settlement by Wm. H. Budd,

One of Its Oldest Settlers," have been appearing daily in the *Martin County Independent* of Fairmont since February 16. The narrative opens with the arrival of the first settlers in 1856. It is particularly interesting as a record of the early settlers of the county and a description of their mode of living. Due consideration is given to the Spirit Lake Massacre of 1857 and to the Sioux Outbreak of 1862, and the results of these uprisings in Martin County are noted.

Charles F. Collisson's feature stories about dairying and agriculture which appear in the Sunday issues of the *Minneapolis Tribune* include, on February 18 and 25, two articles on the history of the Northwest School of Agriculture and Experiment Station at Crookston.

The Richfield Women's Club exhibited the "treasured heirlooms of old families" of its community in connection with a "Richfield exposition" at the Roosevelt School in Minneapolis on March 20 and 21, according to an article in the *Minneapolis Journal* for March 18. Such an exhibit of the relics of pioneer days is of genuine value, for it conveys to the onlooker a sense of reality and thus serves to arouse historical interest.

The seventy-fourth anniversary of the founding of the "first Methodist Episcopal church in Minnesota," the Central Park Methodist Church of St. Paul, occasions a brief article in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for January 7, in which the history of the church is sketched. On January 11 the thirty-fifth anniversary of the founding of the People's Church of St. Paul was celebrated. The First Baptist Church of Minneapolis celebrated during the first week of March the seventieth anniversary of its founding. The twenty-fifth anniversary of the establishment of the Swedish Hospital of Minneapolis was observed on March 23.

A sketch of the history of the Sibley House at Mendota, by Beatrice Longfellow, assisted by Mrs. Frank H. Jarrard, is printed in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for February 25.

Recollections of some early employees are included in an illustrated article about the old Nicollet House in the *Minne-*

apolis Journal for February 25. The occasion for its publication is the fact that this Minneapolis landmark is to be wrecked to make way for a new and modern hotel. In its issue for March 25 the *Journal* prints the reminiscences of Mrs. Christine Eustis, the wife of the first owner, concerning the "official opening" of the Nicollet House on May 26, 1858.

To mark the beginning of "Music Week" in Minneapolis, the *Minneapolis Tribune* for January 7 publishes a group of articles dealing with the history of music in that city. An account of the growth of the department of music of the University of Minnesota is contributed by its chairman, Mr. Carlyle M. Scott; and an outline of the development of the McPhail School of Music and Dramatic Art is included. The oldest member of the Apollo Club, Mr. George B. Eustis, sketches the progress of that organization during twenty-seven years; and two pioneer musicians, Mr. Alfred M. Shuey and Mr. Willard Patton, recall some of the outstanding events in the musical record of the city.

The modest beginnings in Minneapolis of the use of two modern conveniences which today are looked upon as necessities are described in articles in the *Minneapolis Journal* for February 25. One tells of the first telephones installed in the city in 1877 and the difficulties encountered by those who used them. Of special interest is a list of the "first subscribers" who installed telephones after the Northwestern Telephone Company was organized in 1878. In the second article Mr. J. D. Robb relates the story of the automobile which he purchased in 1902 — one of the first three conveyances of its type to appear in Minneapolis. A picture of Mr. Robb seated in the automobile is published with the article.

The statement that "seventy-five years ago Ard Godfrey . . . started Minneapolis' first building boom" by erecting the house which still stands in Richard Chute Square introduces an article on the subsequent growth of the city in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for March 18.

A description of St. Paul in 1860 by Ossian E. Dodge is reprinted in the *St. Paul Daily News* of February 4 from the issue

for June, 1860, of a magazine edited by the author and published in Cleveland — *Dodge's Western Literary Museum*. Two years after writing the article the author made St. Paul his home. In a letter published in the *St. Paul Daily News* for January 28, W. C. Graham of Tacoma, Washington, describes the St. Paul that he knew in 1861.

Among the incidents related recently by Benjamin Backnumber in his sketches of "St. Paul Before This," published in the Sunday issues of the *St. Paul Daily News*, are the following: "Alexander Ramsey's second election to the United States senate, without a vote to spare in the Republican nomination caucus," January 7 and 14; a quarrel in 1851 between James M. Goodhue and Daniel A. Robertson in the columns of the newspapers — both Democratic — which they edited, January 28 and February 14; and the "naming of Mendota," March 18. Brief biographies of the Reverend John Sinclair, pastor twenty-five years ago of the First Presbyterian Church of St. Paul, February 18; and of Jacob Schindler and Joseph Bingham, two early newspaper men, February 25 and March 11, also are included.

A brief outline of the history of the Merchants Hotel of St. Paul is included in an illustrated article by Jay W. Ludden in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* of January 14.

Memories of Eugene N. Larpenteur, who in 1849 settled on a farm in what is now the Midway district of St. Paul, are revived in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for March 4. A picture of his homestead, sketched by his son, James, and a portrait of his daughter, Mrs. Emilie Zenzius of St. Paul, accompany the article. The career of another St. Paul pioneer, Vital Guerin, who established a farm in what has become the very heart of the city, is the subject of another article in the *Pioneer Press* of the same date.

In celebration of the sixty-ninth anniversary of the incorporation of the city of St. Paul a series of historical tableaux was presented and early views of the city were shown on a screen at the St. Paul Auditorium on March 3. During February the St. Paul Institute conducted a series of Saturday afternoon story

hours on "Historic St. Paul," illustrated with lantern slides, in order to prepare the children of the city for the celebration. The newspapers performed a similar service for adults by publishing illustrated articles on the early history of the city. The growth of St. Paul between 1840 and the late fifties is outlined by Elliott J. Tarbell in the *St. Paul Daily News* for January 21, and in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for the same date a "brief survey of St. Paul's industrial career" is presented. The latter subject is elaborated in the *Pioneer Press* of March 4, which prints an extensive series of articles about pioneer business houses of St. Paul.



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