

REVIEWS OF BOOKS

Iowa Chronicles of the World War. Edited by BENJAMIN F. SHAMBAUGH. *Welfare Campaigns in Iowa.* By MARCUS L. HANSEN. (xiv, 320 p.) *Welfare Work in Iowa.* By MARCUS L. HANSEN. (xv, 321 p.) *The Red Cross in Iowa.* By EARL W. FULLBROOK. In two volumes. (xvi, 269, xii, 269 p.) *The Food Administration in Iowa.* By IVAN L. POLLOCK. In two volumes. (xvi, 235, xvi, 239 p.) (Iowa City, The State Historical Society of Iowa, 1920-23.)

Under the happily chosen title, *Iowa Chronicles of the World War*, the State Historical Society of Iowa is producing a series of volumes, now six in number, which in both content and appearance are bound to serve as an inspiration to and, in many respects, as a model for historians of the same period in other states.

The first two volumes issued deal with the activities in Iowa of the seven officially recognized welfare organizations—the Young Men's Christian Association, the Young Women's Christian Association, the Knights of Columbus, the Jewish Welfare Board, the Salvation Army, the American Library Association, and the War Camp Community Service. In one volume is told the story of the various fund-raising campaigns carried on by these agencies, at first independently of one another, then by groups, and finally through the combined effort known as the United War Work Campaign. The second volume describes the work of these and of minor welfare agencies in and about the army training centers in Iowa and in the state at large. Of particular interest to Minnesota and other states of the Middle West, thousands of whose sons received their preliminary military training in Iowa, is an extended account, comprising over half the book, of the welfare work carried on at Camp Dodge and at Fort Des Moines.

The story of the Red Cross is told in two volumes, so divided for the sake of substantial uniformity in the size and appearance of the volumes of the series. In general the first volume deals with the organization, recruiting, and financing of the Red Cross in Iowa; the second with the activities of the Iowa organization in

the preparation of hospital supplies and of knitted articles, in the enrollment and training of nurses, in the maintenance of canteens, in the care of soldiers' dependents, and in the many other ways whereby the Red Cross contributed to the relief and comfort of the service men. In the volumes on the Food Administration are described the efforts put forth for the conservation of food and food products through the voluntary coöperation of the people and through enforcement of the food regulations.

One reason for the comparatively early appearance of these volumes — other states are far behind in the matter of publications of this kind — lies in the fact that the editor of the series has aimed primarily not at the concentration and preservation of all available records of the period, a tremendous task in itself, but rather at the prompt acquisition and publication of such data as might prove essential to a broad understanding of Iowa's part in the war. This choice of ends has its disadvantages from the point of view of students and writers in search of more detailed information than that to be found in a general history. The published accounts, however, are undoubtedly the richer and the better articulated for having been prepared at a time when it was possible not only to consult the more important written and printed sources but to elicit much vital information obtainable only from leaders and participants in the activities described.

The choice of subjects and methods of treatment reflect the new interests and purposes which are coming to characterize the writing of local war history. The unprecedented extent, variety, and effectiveness of civilian war activities during the recent conflict, together with a broadening conception of the scope of history, has brought the civilian war worker into the picture, and in this case, he — meaning she, of course, as well — is being sketched in first lest his image be blurred or forgotten through absorption in the more romantic figure of the soldier. Nor is his delineation intended solely as a memorial of great things accomplished, for his war-time experiences are applicable "to the social needs of peace times," as one of the writers puts it, and it is for the purpose of drawing lessons for the future as well as of perpetuating the memories of past accomplishments that these volumes have been written.

The writers have achieved a praiseworthy detachment from war-time passions and prejudices and from considerations of local pride. Their stories breathe the spirit of the times, but propaganda appears plainly as such and is not allowed to obscure the actual course of events. Nothing was accomplished by magic in Iowa or elsewhere and the magnitude of the state's achievements is enhanced rather than diminished by a frank exposition of the difficulties which had to be overcome and of the gradual development of ways and means to surmount them. No space is wasted on fulsome praise of individuals, organizations, or localities, and comparisons with other states are not always flattering to Iowa.

The accounts excel also in breadth and proportion. Activities known to earlier times of stress are given their appropriate historical settings and all activities, old and new, are presented against the background of the national movements of which they were parts. The story of the Red Cross, for example, outlines the history of the Red Cross movement from the beginning to the World War, describes briefly the war-time organization and purposes of the American Red Cross, and then recounts at length the work of the Red Cross in Iowa with frequent reference to the work and plans of the larger administrative units of the organization. On the other hand, in dealing with local activities the writers have succeeded admirably in the difficult task of holding to the point of view of the state as a whole, citing local instances only as illustrative of developments throughout the state. The story in each case is carried forward with a minimum of interruption or digression. Statistics are presented as simply and unobtrusively as possible and lists of names showing organization personnel, as well as notes and references, are relegated to appendixes. An adequate index is provided for each work.

Before leaving the subject the reviewer's principal proclivity, the picking of flaws, must of course be indulged. Perhaps it is not of great consequence that the prewar history of the Red Cross movement tapers at the wrong end, dealing rather fully with the earlier stages of development and passing over with the barest mention the period of the Spanish-American War, when presumably the movement found some expression in Iowa. Again, one wonders why the state and county personnel of the Food

Administration is given and that of the Red Cross and the seven welfare organizations is not. Finally, it may or may not serve a useful purpose to note that division of the subject matter according to organizations in the case of the account of the Food Administration has resulted in the separation of two activities which were identical in purpose—conservation of food and increased production. In other words the account of the Food Administration deals primarily with conservation, since this was the chief direct concern of that organization, and presumably a forthcoming volume or volumes will deal with production as encouraged under the leadership of the department of agriculture, the Iowa State College of Agriculture at Ames, and the county agents. Each agency had a part in the attainment of both ends, and there is a blurring of the vision as regards their accomplishment which might have been avoided by subordinating the instrumentalities to the ends and by treating the food program as a unit. It is believed that a predominantly topical treatment would not to the same degree have obscured the workings of the organizations as such and that it would have involved less duplication of subject matter. But any classification would have left something to be desired, and the Iowa plan, though perhaps open to question at the point indicated, is the only one that has as yet in any considerable degree been put to a practical test.

FRANKLIN F. HOLBROOK

Das illustrierte Mississippithal dargestellt in 80 nach der Natur aufgenommenen Ansichten vom Wasserfalle zu St. Anthony an bis zum Golf von Mexico (Reprints of Rare Americana, no. 3). By H. LEWIS, Landschaftsmaler aus St. Louis, in Missouri, and GEORGE B. DOUGLAS. With an introduction by J. CHRISTIAN BAY. (Leipzig, H. Schmidt and C. Günther; Florence, Otto Lange, 1923. xii, 431 p. Illustrations.)

The origin of this rare book on the Mississippi Valley goes back to the interest of our ancestors in the panoramic canvas. In the forties and fifties photography was in its pioneer stage and the cinema was of course unknown. Moving pictures of a sort were made available, nevertheless. Enormous painted canvases, some of them more than a thousand yards in length, were un-

rolled before audiences glad to pay generously for the privilege of viewing such panoramic spectacles.

Henry Lewis, a St. Louis artist of English birth, designed and executed a panorama of the Mississippi from Fort Snelling to the gulf. As early as the spring of 1846 he ascended the river to Fort Snelling and drifted down its course making sketches of scenes along the way. The following summer he covered the lower course of the river and in 1848 he came up to Fort Snelling and floated down the entire river. Using his sketches as a basis for his work, he began to paint the panorama itself. It was completed in September, 1849, a canvas 1,325 yards in length, and it was exhibited with considerable success in the larger cities of the country. Its creator then took it to Europe, going first to England and then to Germany, where he settled in Düsseldorf. Tradition has it that the gigantic canvas was bought by an Englishman and carried off to India.

Lewis retained the original sketches and used them as the basis for a book on the Mississippi Valley which was published at Düsseldorf in twenty parts between 1854 and 1857. The most interesting feature of the work is a series of seventy-eight illustrated plates, magnificent reproductions in colors of the artist's originals. The book has become exceedingly rare. In fact, Mr. J. Christian Bay, who contributes an illuminating preface to the reprint edition, asserts that less than twenty copies of it are known to exist in American libraries. The rarity and the interest of the work have led a European publisher to issue a new edition of it.

In passing, the reviewer calls attention to the fact that the Minnesota Historical Society possesses a copy of the original. This copy raises an interesting bibliographical problem, for its title page differs in some particulars from the title page reproduced in the reprint. According to Mr. Bay, the text of the book was first written in English by George B. Douglas, who accompanied Lewis on his journeys in 1846 and 1847, and was then translated into German. The copy of the book used in making the reprint appears to support Mr. Bay's assertion, for after the main title and the name of H. Lewis there appears the following: "*Nebst einer historischen und geographischen Beschreibung der den Fluss begränzenden Länder, mit besonderer*

Rücksicht auf die verschiedenen den obern Mississippi bewohnenden Indianerstämme. (Deutsch und englisch.) Von George B. Douglas." But on the title page of the original in the library of the Minnesota Historical Society the German phrase quoted above, minus the three words in parentheses, appears above the name of H. Lewis, and the following line is printed below it: "Nach dem engl. Original-Text von H. Lewis deutsch bearbeitet von George B. Douglas." One is justified in asking, therefore, whether Lewis or Douglas wrote the text of the book. Certainly the title page of the Minnesota Historical Society's copy clearly states that the original English text was written by H. Lewis and that the German translation was done by George B. Douglas.

The Minnesota interest of the volume lies in a series of some fifteen pictures of Minnesota scenes in the forties. Interesting short descriptive accounts accompany the plates and there are some sections of the text—for example, on Fountain Cave, Carver's Cave, and Indian music and poetry—which are not illustrated. Among the subjects of the paintings which are reproduced are Fort Snelling, St. Anthony and Minnehaha falls, St. Paul, Kaposia ("Klein Rabendorf"), and Red Wing Village. The reprint is a notable piece of book-making of interest generally to students of the history of the Mississippi Valley.

THEODORE C. BLEGEN

A Detailed Account of the Massacre by the Dakota Indians of Minnesota in 1862. By MARION P. SATTERLEE. (Minneapolis, the author, [1923]. iv, 128 p.)

The most tragic and alarming chapter in all our state history was the Dakota or Sioux Massacre and war in 1862. Having come to southern Minnesota at the age of six years with his parents about a year after this outbreak, the author of this book became familiar in his boyhood with narrations of the terrible Indian massacre which resulted in the flight of all surviving settlers from the Minnesota Valley above New Ulm and from the large region of the new state farther southwest. During twelve years, from 1895 to 1907, he was the founder and editor of newspapers in Atwater and Annandale near the northeast border of the great district that was thus temporarily depopulated.

Through more than twenty years Mr. Satterlee has diligently gathered records of the victims in the massacre and in ensuing scattered murders by marauding Sioux. "The principal aim of this work is to identify each victim, and give particulars as to location, manner and time of the death."

In four preliminary lists issued between 1914 and 1919 the progress of his researches has been presented, until now in the present book the compilation is believed to comprise all who lost their lives in the Sioux Massacre and murders. Shortly after the outbreak, before the execution of thirty-eight Sioux at Mankato on December 26, 1862, it was estimated by Agent Thomas F. Galbraith, by President Lincoln, and by others, that "about eight hundred men, women, and children, were massacred within a few days." This estimate has been repeated up to 1921 in the successive biennial issues of the *Legislative Manual*. But the lists carefully gathered by Mr. Satterlee are summarized on page 124 as follows: Citizens, including not only men but also women and children, who were killed or died from injuries, 413; enlisted soldiers killed in 1862 and others killed in the expeditions of 1863-65 against the Sioux in Dakota, 77; total number of white people killed, 490; "Indians killed, hung or died," 71; Indians imprisoned, 277.

This publication has very high historical value for its definite enumeration and list of names of the massacre victims; for its list of the 107 white prisoners surrendered at Camp Release on September 26, 1862; for the list of 177 Indians pardoned at Davenport, Iowa, on January 20, 1866; for a list of refugees at Fort Ridgely taken from records of the state adjutant general; and for other similar material. Short narratives are supplied by Samuel J. Brown of the final battle in 1862 at Wood Lake and of the capture of the family of his father, Joseph R. Brown; and by James B. Lamson of the death of the Sioux chief, Little Crow, who was killed by his father, Nathan Lamson, and his brother Chauncey, near Hutchinson on July 3, 1863. The latter article has been included by Mr. Satterlee in "Narratives of the Sioux War," published in volume 15 of the *Minnesota Historical Collections*.

A roster of a volunteer cavalry company from St. Anthony and Minneapolis, numbering ninety men, which was organized

under command of Anson Northup (whose name is here misspelled Northrup), is given on pages 121-123. This company joined some regular troops under Colonel Samuel McPhail at St. Peter, made an all-night ride, and reached Fort Ridgely in the early morning of August 27. When the volunteers found, however, that the Sioux had failed to capture either the fort or New Ulm they soon returned home, with the exception of two members who enlisted in the United States service against the Sioux. One of these men was killed and the other was mortally wounded five days later in the battle of Birch Coulee.

WARREN UPHAM

The Story of Duluth, Its Settlement, Growth, and Possibilities.

Prepared by Fourth Grade Teachers of Duluth, Minnesota.

(Duluth, The Board of Education, 1923. ix, 145 p. Illustrations, maps.)

In the public schools of Duluth provision is made for the study of the geography and history of the city. The teachers of the fourth grade, faced with the problem of assembling information for such a course, decided to prepare a book on the subject. The method of its preparation is explained by the editor, Mary Dabney Davis, who writes in the introduction:

The teachers organized themselves into committees to study the following topics: the history of Duluth, the geography of Duluth, its industries, its transportation facilities, its points of interest, and its government.

The first idea was to gather bare facts and to ask the teachers to assemble and organize the material. After the work had been started, it became evident that more of a contribution would be made if these facts could be put into interesting form, presenting the founding and growth of our city, with intimate glimpses into its problems of growth. It was found that this contribution would be of interest to the citizens of Duluth, as well as an assistance to the school work. The book aims to be a help in vitalizing the school curriculum. Statistics of various kinds have been used to stimulate actual arithmetic problems, and every effort made to relate Duluth to the world at large. The committee met many times, submitting material to the chairmen and reporting on visits to the Chamber of Commerce, to civic and industrial organizations, to city officials, and to citizens who have an intimate knowledge of the city's development. They also reported on research among the files of old newspapers, old circulars, old photographs, and recorded speeches.

The result of this admirable coöperative enterprise is a handsome illustrated volume which presents an interesting, well-organized, and thoroughly useful account of Duluth. The book is a compliment to the professional spirit of the teachers who prepared it. Not only have they assembled in compact form a mass of data which will be of service to the public schools of Duluth, to people of that city generally, and to students of Minnesota, but they also have undergone a training which will be of immeasurable service to themselves as teachers and they have furnished a model for other communities in the state confronted by similar problems. It is to be hoped that teachers in other cities will profit by the example of Duluth. Such projects promise not only increased vitalization of history teaching but also the advancement of the general historical interests of Minnesota.

The book under review opens with a chapter on the history of Duluth in which some account is given of the Indian background, the early explorers, especially Du Luth, the Fond du Lac trading post, the growth of Duluth town sites, and the general growth of the city to 1922. The chapter includes a list of twenty-two Duluth authors and poets with the titles of their books.

Two excellent chapters on the geography and the industries of Duluth follow. Considerable attention is given to the steel industry and the relation of the iron mines to Duluth. Chapter 4, the most informing in the book, deals comprehensively with transportation in its relation to the history of the city. Chapter 5 furnishes an admirable guide to the various points of interest in Duluth and in the final chapter the government of the city is analyzed. A bibliography of forty titles at the end of the book opens the way for further study. It should be noted that the book was composed and printed in the Manual Training High School print shop of Duluth.

THEODORE C. BLEGEN

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES

The additions to the active membership during the three months ending March 31 numbered 78. The new members represent twenty counties of the state and three other states. The membership increases in Brown and Cottonwood counties are particularly notable and are explained by the activities of the representatives in those counties of the state-wide committee on membership (see *ante*, p. 370). This committee, since its appointment in December, has been instrumental in adding 54 names to the society's active membership. Considerably more than one-half of the new members for the quarter reported in the following list have joined the society as a result of the activities of the committee:

ANOKA: Arthur L. Reed and O. E. Smith of Anoka.

BLUE EARTH: William P. Marston of Lake Crystal.

BROWN: Otto Buenger, Robert Fesenmeier, John H. Forster, Henry Held, Rudolph R. Kemski, Rudolph Marti, William Muesing, Hugo O. Schleuder, Henry N. Somsen, Albert Steinhäuser, E. A. Stoll, and Dr. Joseph H. Vogel, all of New Ulm.

COTTONWOOD: R. H. Jefferson of Bingham Lake and Jens Anderson, Adrian W. Annes, Dr. Henry C. Beise, Silas A. Brown, Willis J. Clark, William A. Cook, Ole J. Finstad, Michael L. Fisch, Edward E. Gillam, Ole M. Hammerstad, Henry E. Hanson, Frank L. Parso, Truman A. Perkins, Andrew A. Quevli, John J. Rupp, and Delbert U. Weld of Windom.

FARIBAULT: Chris Carlson of Blue Earth.

HENNEPIN: Lee H. Abbey, Chilson D. Aldrich, George R. Martin, Mrs. Howard McI. Morton, and Dr. Horatio B. Sweetser, all of Minneapolis.

HOUSTON: Reverend Alfred O. Johnson of Spring Grove.

LAC QUI PARLE: M. Alfred Larson, Oscar J. Larson, Mrs. Julius W. Smith, and Martin A. Stemsrud, all of Madison.

LYON: Gunnar B. Björnson of Minneota.

NICOLLET: Mrs. H. L. Stark of St. Peter.

OTTER TAIL: Casper W. Lotterer and Robert J. Scofield of Perham.

POLK: Mrs. M. M. Terrell of Maple Lake.

RAMSEY: Henry P. Barlow, Mrs. Henry P. Barlow, Asa G. Briggs, Edward P. Davis, Mrs. George T. O'Brien, and William J. Ryland, all of St. Paul.

RED LAKE: S. J. Bredeson and John P. Budzinski of Plummer.

RENVILLE: Harald T. Bordewich and Reverend Henry D. Pomeji of Olivia.

ST. LOUIS: Charles E. Lovett, Cotter Randall, and Reverend Thomas D. Whittles, all of Duluth.

STEELE: Minot J. Brown, Thomas E. Cashman, and E. K. Whiting, all of Owatonna.

WASECA: Charles H. Watson of Waseca.

WILKIN: Fred W. Johnson, Lewis E. Jones, Eugene W. Mangskau, Frank L. Pierce, Dr. Ernest W. Rimer, and Henry G. Wyvell, all of Breckenridge.

WINONA: Arnold M. Christenson, Karl Finkelnburg, Lester K. Kirk, and Clarence D. Tearse, all of Winona.

NONRESIDENT: John H. Hauberg of Rock Island, Illinois; Mrs. Theresa C. MacEwan of La Fayette, New York; and Alice Smith of New Richmond, Wisconsin.

One institutional member, the Minnesota Garden Flower Society, Mrs. Le Roy Cady, secretary, has been enrolled during the quarter.

The society lost six active members by death during the last quarter: Andrew G. Johnson of Minneapolis, January 10; Thomas B. Janney of Minneapolis, February 5; Frank M. Parcher of Hollywood, California, February 8; the Honorable Daniel Fish of Minneapolis, February 9; Edwin J. Bishop of St. Paul, February 14; and Lewis S. Gillette of Minneapolis, March 30. Charles H. Baker of Zellwood, Florida, a corresponding member, died on January 23; and the Honorable Woodrow Wilson of Washington, D. C., an honorary member, died on February 3.

The number of subscriptions to the society's publications from schools and public libraries has been increased to 141 by the addition of 18 institutions during the last quarter. These include public schools in Aitkin, Austin, Barnum, Blooming Prairie, Dawson, Glyndon, Hutchinson, Lake City, Long Lake, Maple Lake, Minneapolis (Central High School), Minneota, Monticello,

Pemberton, and Wayzata; the Luther Theological Seminary of St. Paul; and the Blake School of Minneapolis.

In an effort to forestall needless destruction of historical papers and relics, the society issued in the April number of the *Minnesota Historical News* the following appeal:

Now that it is house-cleaning time again and the annual attack on rubbish and dust is under way, the Minnesota Historical Society is reminding housekeepers that their dusty attics may contain historical treasures.

Don't throw your grandfather's old letters and account books into the bonfire. Those papers ought to be saved, for they tell of the struggles of some of the early settlers of our great state. Not long ago a St. Paul garret yielded up the account books of a Minnesota fur-trader, Norman W. Kittson.

That dusty little dog-eared notebook with the yellow pages and quaint writing? It is your grandfather's diary and tells a story that historians want to read. Send it to your state historical society in St. Paul.

Old handbills, pamphlets, books, maps, candlesticks, iron cooking utensils, china, brass kettles, Paul Revere lanterns, beaver hats, stamp albums, Indian relics, trunks filled with queer old objects,—such things as these are not rubbish. They are attic treasures and they should not fall victims to the great spring crusade. The Minnesota Historical Society is attempting to build up a comprehensive collection of materials which will throw light upon conditions of life in the past of the state.

All records for the use made of the society's library during one quarter were broken by the record for January, February, and March. During this period 13,853 books and pamphlets were used in the main reading room, a slight increase over the service for the corresponding three months of 1923 and an increase of sixty-one per cent over the service for the corresponding quarter in 1922. More books were used in the society's library during the first quarter of 1924 than during the entire year of 1920, and in the month of March alone the book service exceeded that of the entire year of 1918.

No less than twenty speeches on historical subjects or on the work of the society have been given by members of the society's staff during the months of January, February, and March. The monthly series of talks given by representatives of the society at the Twin City radio station WLAG has been continued, but the January talk was omitted. Miss Livia Appel, research assistant, spoke in February on "Some Interesting Historic Sites in Minnesota," and in March the curator of the museum spoke on "Sioux

versus Chippewa: A Chapter in Early Minnesota History." On January 25 the superintendent addressed the organization meeting of the Ramsey County Historical Society (see *post*, p. 471), and on February 4 he gave a talk entitled "Introducing Minnesota" before the Engineers' Society of St. Paul. The work of the society was discussed by the assistant superintendent before the St. Paul Coöperative Club on January 22. On January 28 he spoke to the Men's Club of Grace English Lutheran Church in Minneapolis on "Old World Influences in Minnesota History," and the same lecture was given on the next evening to the Norwegian Society of Minneapolis. He gave a talk on "Abraham Lincoln and Foreign Opinion" at the KFEX broadcasting station, Augsburg Seminary, Minneapolis, on February 12, and an address on "Francis Parkman" at Hamline University on February 20. In February the society's curator of manuscripts lectured to a class of Hamline University students on "The Hague Conferences," using as the basis for the lecture the manuscripts of one of the American delegates to the first conference, now in the possession of the society. Nine illustrated talks were given during the quarter by the curator of the museum to visiting public school classes and on January 14 he read a paper on "The Indian of Today" at a meeting of the St. Paul chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Governor Preus has appointed the superintendent a member of a committee to receive funds for the Thomas Jefferson Memorial Foundation in Minnesota. The other members of the committee are Mr. Thomas J. McDermott of St. Paul, chairman, and Mr. E. A. Purdy of Minneapolis. The chief object of the foundation is the preservation of Monticello, the famous home of Jefferson, as a national memorial; and the members of this committee will serve as Minnesota's representatives on the Board of Monticello Managers.

The presidential address of the superintendent, delivered at the annual meeting of the Mississippi Valley Historical Association at Oklahoma City on March 29, 1923, and printed in the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review* for June, 1923, under the title "The Progress and Possibilities of Mississippi Valley History," is reprinted in the recently issued *Chronicles of Oklahoma*

for June, 1923, the new quarterly magazine of the Oklahoma Historical Society.

An advance chapter entitled "The Sioux Outbreak of 1862" from the second volume of Dr. William W. Folwell's *History of Minnesota* is printed in the February and March numbers of the *Gopher-M*, a publication issued by the Minneapolis Athletic Club. In the March issue the editor asks, "Do you know anything about the history of Minnesota? When you ride along the highways can you tell your guests of the Indian battles which took place in certain localities? Do you know anything about the places where you drive on Sunday or during your summer vacation? . . . Minnesota is quite a place after all, as you will readily observe when you begin to dig into its history."

Members of the staff continue to give their support to the growing movement for the teaching of state and local history in the schools of Minnesota. Additional copies of the mimeographed syllabus of Minnesota history (see *ante*, p. 373) have been run off recently by the director of the teachers' training department of the Minneapolis schools. Requests for suggestions and material for use in teaching state and local history in the grades are constantly being received and answered by the society, and recently the assistant superintendent conferred with a number of grade teachers in South St. Paul with reference to a plan for the preparation by the teachers of a history of that city for use in its schools.

A hitherto unpublished letter from Stephen Sayre to George Washington dated at London on November 15, 1787, and now in the possession of the society was printed in full in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for February 22 in a Washington birthday article. The paper is from the society's collection of Washington manuscripts (see *ante*, p. 222) and it relates to the proposed new constitution of the United States.

At a meeting of the State Federation of Women's Clubs on February 21 members of the Fourth District Federation, with the assistance of the staff of the society's museum, staged in the auditorium of the Historical Building a little historical play entitled "The First Wapasha."

An exhibition of a sitting room and bedroom of the mid-Victorian period with furniture of the heavy walnut type has just been installed in the society's museum. Hair wreaths, chromos, and crayon portraits decorate the walls, a carved whatnot occupies its appointed place in one corner, and a fine patchwork quilt is spread over the poster bed. The entrance to the room is guarded by a splendid full-length mirror in a walnut frame.

The resignation of Miss Elizabeth K. Clark, the society's head cataloguer, effective January 31, has left a vacancy on the staff which has not yet been filled. Miss Clark had been with the society for two and a half years and left to accept the position of head cataloguer in the Kansas City Public Library.

ACCESSIONS

The work of calendaring material relating to the Northwest in the Washington archives, carried on by a group of coöperating historical agencies (see *ante*, p. 223), goes forward regularly. The important files of the Indian office have never been included in this work, however, for the reason that two of the coöperating institutions had already completed similar work on these files before the joint arrangement was made. One of these, the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, secured both calendars and photostats of a large quantity of this material relating to the upper Mississippi country, and arrangements have been made for borrowing the calendars in order that copies may be made of such entries as are of Minnesota interest. Calendar cards for four letter books of the Michigan Indian superintendency for the years 1814 to 1823, which have already been received from the State Historical Society of Wisconsin, are of Minnesota interest because the Minnesota region was under the jurisdiction of that superintendency. It is expected that ultimately the original files of the Indian office will be searched for additional material of Minnesota interest not included in the Wisconsin calendar.

Several new installments of calendar cards have been received from Miss Myrtle A. Cline, who is calendaring the papers of the American Fur Company for several mid-western historical organizations (see *ante*, p. 376). In all the society now has not

far from nine thousand calendar cards for letters received by the company. A considerable number of photostats made from original letters in the New York collection have also been received, including approximately 125 letters written during the period from 1834 to 1842 by Gabriel Franchere, who had supervision over much of the work of the American Fur Company in the Northwest.

The diary of Mrs. Edmund F. Ely for 1835 and 1836 has been borrowed for copying from the St. Louis County Historical Society and forms an interesting supplement to the diaries kept by her missionary husband which are mentioned in the February BULLETIN (see *ante*, p. 376). Most of Mrs. Ely's entries relate to her two small children; but life in the mission school also receives some attention, as Mrs. Ely assisted her husband in the school work.

Some years ago Dr. Andrew W. Williamson supplied Mrs. Julia Treadwell of St. Peter with a biographical sketch of his father, Dr. Thomas S. Williamson, the well-known missionary to the Sioux. A copy of this sketch has now been presented to the society by Mrs. Treadwell.

"Crow Wing 3^d June 1848" is the heading of a letter by John Evans, the geologist, written while on a Pacific railroad exploring expedition, and now presented to the society by Mr. David I. Bushnell of Washington.

Items of interest concerning life in Minneapolis in 1858 are preserved in two letters written by E. S. Beebe, who came to Minnesota in 1858 to regain his health. Some attention is given to prices, and the writer says that "nice new potatoes" are "15 cents per bushel, and will soon be down to 10 cents per bushel" and that cabbages command the exorbitant price of two cents per head and sweet corn is three cents per dozen ears. Copies of the letters have been loaned to the society by Professor Albert B. White of the University of Minnesota, a grandson of Mr. Beebe.

A copy of a letter dated at St. Johns, Red River, March 19, 1860, which describes a trip just completed to that place from Crow Wing via "Lake '44' or Detroit Lake" and Pembina, is a

gift from Mr. John K. West of Detroit. The letter was written by T. Thistlethwaite Smith, an English missionary on the way to Rupert's Land, and was addressed to the Reverend and Mrs. Ebenezer S. Peake, missionaries at Crow Wing, whom Smith had visited at their station. The original of the letter is in a collection of material relating to Becker County which has been turned over by Mr. West to the recently organized Becker County Historical Society.

A blue-print copy of a map of the trail followed by the Sibley expedition against the Sioux in 1863, prepared for the State Historical Society of North Dakota by R. B. Black and K. E. Wright under the direction of Dana Wright of Jamestown, North Dakota, has been presented to the society by the latter.

About one hundred and fifty Civil War letters written by John N. Henry of the Forty-ninth New York Volunteer Infantry to his wife at Forestville, New York, together with a few other family letters of earlier date, have been presented by Mr. Ulysses G. Herrick of Minneapolis.

In the February number of the *Minnesota Historical News*, the society's monthly press bulletin, an article entitled "Wanted: An Old Wooden Churn" was printed. This item was reproduced in many newspapers and as a result no less than fourteen offers of wooden churns for the society's museum were received. One excellent churn of the type desired has now been presented by Mr. and Mrs. Silas Mills of Truman through the courtesy of Mr. John Campbell. A picture of this churn appears in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for March 23.

Mrs. Edmund S. Houghtaling of St. Paul has added to the society's costume collection the complete wedding costume worn by her mother as a bride in 1850. The dress is made with the full hoop skirt, the narrow waist, and the sharp-pointed stomacher of that period. An elaborate coming-out gown of salmon-colored silk in the full basque style and a dressing jacket of darned net of 1884 are the gifts of Mrs. George M. Kenyon of St. Paul.

To the society's collection of objects illustrating military history have recently been added two gifts from Mrs. A. R. McGill of

St. Paul: the uniform coat worn by her son Captain Wilson McGill during the World War, and the blue uniform overcoat worn by Captain Charles H. McGill in the Spanish-American War.

A splendid specimen of a native copper spearhead, some nine inches long, which was found near Onamia in January, is the gift of Mr. Edward N. Raymond of St. Cloud, through the courtesy of the Honorable J. B. Pattison of the same place.

A pair of heavy silver armlets with incised decorations have been deposited with the society by Mr. Scott N. Farnham of Minneapolis, who obtained them many years ago from a Sioux chief.

In order that some relic of the historic old Sawyer House of Stillwater—which has recently been wrecked—may be preserved for posterity Mr. L. E. Torinus and Mr. Oscar Ostrom of Stillwater have presented to the society a handsome full-length mirror in an antique frame, which evidently dates back to the very early days of the hotel.

A patchwork quilt some nine feet square, beautifully worked in the "Blazing Star" design, which was made in the South prior to the Civil War, has recently been placed on deposit with the society by Mrs. Everton J. Abbott of St. Paul.

B. and M. Gratz, Merchants in Philadelphia, 1754-1798; Papers of Interest to Their Posterity and the Posterity of Their Associates, selected and edited by William V. Byars (1916. 386 p.), is the title of a beautifully bound volume presented by Mrs. J. R. Morton of Lexington, Kentucky. The work, which is privately printed in an edition of only 250 copies, contains a wealth of material of great value to anyone interested in early trading enterprises and land speculation in the West.

NEWS AND COMMENT

A great deal of important Minnesota history might be brought together in a volume on the trails, roads, and highways of the state. Such a work, if rightly conceived and carefully done, would be of special interest to students of Minnesota's social and economic development. Transportation in its general relation to the life and development of the people of Minnesota would have to be considered. In addition to descriptive accounts of roads and their relation to the developing industry of the region the volume might include material on early methods of travel, tavern life, and social customs as revealed by contemporary records of local travel. A model for precisely this sort of study is *Chicago's Highways, Old and New: From Indian Trail to Motor Road*, by Milo M. Quaife (Chicago, 1923. 278 p.). The author of this admirable book reconstructs "a picture of the now-forgotten life of the pioneer highways which made possible the development of Chicago in the days before the coming of the railroad." There is an opening chapter on the "Birth of a Metropolis." This is followed by a chapter on "The Road to Chicago," which is of general interest for western history. After a series of chapters on special highways, some of which were of great importance in connection with the movement of population into the Northwest, the work closes with entertaining descriptions of stagecoach travel, taverns and tavern life, dangers of the highway, and a bridal tour in pioneer Illinois. A "Guide to the Chief Points of Historical Interest Within a Day's Journey of Chicago" is printed as an appendix.

One interesting suggestion made in the recent report on state parks by Mr. Ray P. Chase, the state auditor of Minnesota (see *ante*, p. 137), was that the sites of early fur-trading posts in Minnesota should be appropriately marked. The determination of the exact location of many of these posts offers an attractive problem for local historical societies to solve. It is interesting to note, in this connection, that the site of Kullyspell House, the trading post established by David Thompson in 1809 on Pend

d'Oreille Lake in what is now northern Idaho, has been located by Mr. Duncan McDonald of Dixon, Montana, according to an article in the *St. Paul Dispatch* for March 29.

That history should explain "how our present institutions and culture came about," indicate "their possible defects," and aid us "more intelligently to plan for a better future" is the basic view of an article on "History and Social Intelligence," by Harry E. Barnes, in the *Journal of Social Forces* for January.

Extracts from books of travel and description by British travelers in the United States are skillfully brought together in a book entitled *American Social History as Recorded by British Travelers*, edited by Allan Nevins (New York, 1923. 577 p.). The West figures only slightly in the volume and only two references to Minnesota have been noted: one, a passage from Anthony Trollope in which the spirit of Minnesota volunteers in the Civil War is described, and the other a quotation from Mr. W. L. George in which tribute is paid to the architectural beauty of the Minneapolis grain elevators.

An article on the "Promotion of Historical Study in America Following the Civil War," by James A. Woodburn, and a brief account of "The Illinois Historical Collections," by Theodore C. Pease, are among the papers printed in the *Transactions* of the Illinois State Historical Society for 1922.

An "Outline for a Survey of Local History and Historical Material" which could be used in any community is printed in the *Indiana History Bulletin* for March.

Much information of Minnesota interest is embodied in a work entitled *The Coöperative Elevator Movement: A Study in Grain Marketing at Country Points in the North Central States*, by Dr. Joseph B. Kenkel (Washington, 1922. 155 p.). The second chapter in the book is devoted to an historical survey of coöperative grain marketing in the north central states.

A contribution to the history of the Northern Securities Company is made in chapter 7 of *Robert Bacon: Life and Letters*, by James Brown Scott (Garden City and New York, 1923. 459 p.). Robert Bacon, who later became secretary of state and ambassa-

dor to France, was a member of the firm of J. P. Morgan and Company at the time of the events which led to the formation of the Northern Securities Company.

"An Empire Builder: James J. Hill" is the title of one chapter in a book of biographical sketches entitled *Our Foreign Born Citizens: What They Have Done for America*, by Annie E. S. Beard (New York, 1922. 288 p.).

A useful work for historians as well as for geographers is *A Treatise on the Law of Surveying and Boundaries* by Frank E. Clark (Indianapolis, 1922. 631 p.).

Ready print, stereotype plates, mats, and copy figure largely in a *History of Auxiliary Newspaper Service in the United States* by Elmo Scott Watson (Champaign, Illinois, 1923. 46 p.). One chapter of this book tells of "The Rise of the Western Newspaper Union" and the entire volume throws light upon the newspaper service which the average Minnesota community receives.

A convenient brief summary of available contemporary accounts of the chief French explorations in the seventeenth century is presented in *Relations des Voyageurs Français en nouvelle France au XVII^{me} Siècle*, by Séraphin Marion (Paris, 1923. 276 p.). The scope of the work has made impossible any detailed critical consideration of the various explorers discussed. Hennepin receives practically no attention from the author, although he devotes sections to such figures as Radisson, Perrot, and Le Sueur.

The 1923 *List of Doctoral Dissertations in History in Progress at the Chief American Universities*, published by the department of historical research of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, includes the following subjects of interest to students of Minnesota history: Economic Causes of Agrarian Discontent in the West, by Henrietta Larson (Minnesota); History of the Flour Milling Industry in the United States, with Special Emphasis on the Industry in Minneapolis, by C. B. Kuhlmann (Minnesota); Immigration during the Civil War, by Annie Neal (Wisconsin); Robert Dickson, a British Fur Trader of the Northwest, by L. A. Tohill (Minnesota); The Political Balance of the Northwest, by

R. C. Buley (Wisconsin); The Rise of Cities in the Mississippi Valley, by E. G. O'Geran (Michigan); The Rôle of Henry Villard in the Development of Transportation in the Northwest, 1875-95, by J. B. Hedges (Harvard); United States Administration of Indian Affairs in Minnesota, 1819-40, by Willoughby M. Babcock, Jr. (Harvard); History of Poor Relief in Minnesota, by G. A. Lundberg (Minnesota); Development of the Twin Cities as a Metropolitan Center, by Mildred L. Hartsough (Minnesota); The Expansion of Canada into the Northwest, to 1870, by John P. Pritchett (Minnesota); The Agrarian Movement in North Dakota, by Paul Fossum (Johns Hopkins); A History of Norwegian Immigration to the United States, by Theodore C. Blegen (Minnesota); and A History of the Norwegian Lutheran Church of America, by J. M. Rohne (Harvard).

The chapter of Lord Charnwood's *Theodore Roosevelt* (Boston, 1923) entitled "Nineteenth-Century America" is a notable exposition of the part played by the West, by frontier influences and problems, in making America what it was at the end of that century.

Stories of early railroading in the Northwest, recalled by Mr. Edgar F. Woode, Mr. Clark B. Davidson, and Mr. John D. Condit, three pioneer employees of the Chicago, St. Paul, Minneapolis and Omaha Railway, are recorded in an illustrated feature article in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for January 13. Of special interest is a description of the discomforts of winter travel in the poorly heated coaches with the danger ever present of a snow blockade between the widely separated towns. In the *Pioneer Press* for March 16 some experiences of another pioneer railroad man, Mr. John Traynor, who was connected with Minnesota railroads from 1866 to 1912, are recounted.

An account of the "Old Days of Rafting on the Mississippi River," by Harry G. Dyer, is published in the *Stillwater Daily Gazette* for March 17.

A valuable analysis of "The Economic Background of Frontier Populism," by Hallie Farmer, appears in the March number of the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review*. Two other articles in the same number are of general interest to students of north-

western history: "Francis Parkman, 1823-1923," by Joseph Schafer, and "Western Land Hunger and the War of 1812: A Conjecture," by Louis Morton Hacker.

Numerous articles on the history of the Scandinavians in America appear in a new periodical entitled *Scandinavia: A Monthly Magazine Devoted to the Interests of Scandinavians Everywhere*, edited by Georg Strandvold and published by P. O. Thorson at Grand Forks, North Dakota. The first number of this publication, issued in January, reprints Mr. Albert O. Barton's interesting article on "Muskego, the Most Historic Norwegian Colony" (see *ante*, p. 284). There is also a brief article on the early Norse discoveries entitled "The First Chapter of Civilization on the American Continent," by Rasmus B. Anderson. The February number contains an article on "The Swedish Historical Society of America," by C. G. Wallenius; an analysis of "The Anneke Jans Delusions," by Torstein Jahr; an account of "A Singing Settlement" (Lindsborg, Kansas), by Alfred Bergin; and an illustrated article, "With a Pioneer Through Luther College Museum," by J. Magnus Rohne. "Andreas Dreyer (Andries Draeyer)," a colonial officer of the seventeenth century who was of Scandinavian origin, is the subject of a study by Torstein Jahr in the March number. Miss Clara Jacobson contributes to the same issue an account of "A Pioneer Pastor Who Knew Lincoln," the Reverend Abraham Jacobson, who, it appears, figured in Minnesota history as a missionary in Otter Tail, Douglas, and other counties, in the late sixties. "Norwegians in the Public and Political Life of the United States" is the title of an illuminating paper by Juul Dieserud. Two especially interesting articles in the April number are "The Danish Settlement at Tyler, Minnesota," by Kristian Ostergaard, and "An Outline of Norwegian-American Literature," by Einar Josephson. The magazine is handsome in appearance, well edited, and interesting, and its first four issues indicate that it will be an important medium for the publication of historical material.

In a suggestive article entitled "The Making and the Mission of America," by John H. Finley, published in the *American-Scandinavian Review* for January, the inadequacy of the "melting

pot" theory of American population is emphasized. "If 'Americanization' means a hybridization of race, a melting of all cultures," writes the author, "it would probably mean a reversion to one or another original type, a transmutation into a lower culture, an alloy far less precious than some at least of the gifts that have value both of substance and of form."

The *Wisconsin Magazine of History* for March contains a paper on "Albion Academy," where Knute Nelson received his education, by J. Q. Emery; an article on Henry de Tonty by Dr. Louise P. Kellogg; and an interesting sketch of "Trempealeau: A French Outpost of the Seventeenth Century and a State Park of Today," by W. A. Titus, in which is told the story of Nicolas Perrot.

The entire double number of the *Illinois Catholic Historical Review* for July-October, 1923, is devoted to articles on Marquette and Jolliet and the discovery of the Mississippi. Several of the articles are reprinted from the *July Palimpsest* (see *ante*, p. 314).

A life of the Indiana antislavery leader *George W. Julian*, by Grace Julian Clarke, has been published as volume 1 in the *Indiana Biographical Series*, issued by the Indiana Historical Commission (Indianapolis, 1923. 456 p.).

A suggestive paper entitled "Historical Documents as Symbols of Historic Ideas," by A. L. Kohlmeier, is printed in an extra number of the *Indiana History Bulletin* dated February. This number is given up to the proceedings of the Fifth Annual Indiana History Conference, which was held on December 7 and 8 at Indianapolis. Several interesting addresses are included in the volume, among them one on the "Importance and Possibilities of State Historical Museums," by Charles E. Brown, and one on "County Historical Museums," by John A. Hibberd.

A paper on "The Granger Movement in the Middle West, with Special Reference to Iowa," by W. A. Anderson, is printed in the *Iowa Journal of History and Politics* for January.

A scholarly essay on *The Government of Special Charter Cities in Iowa*, by George F. Robeson, has been issued by the State Historical Society of Iowa (Iowa City, 1923. 286 p.).

An admirable example of worth-while publication of historical source materials is the second volume of *Select British Documents of the Canadian War of 1812*, edited by William Wood and published by the Champlain Society (Toronto, 1923. 517 p.). Among these papers there are occasional interesting references to the Indian problem in the Northwest; for example, a letter from General Henry Proctor, dated September 6, 1813, deals with the important question of supplies and ammunition for the Indians (p. 269).

A bronze tablet marking the fording point on the Red River where the Red River carts were taken across the stream is to be placed by the Red River Valley chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution, according to a dispatch from Grand Forks published in the *Minneapolis Journal* for January 1.

A trip from Port Arthur to Fort Garry in 1874 over the "Dawson land-and-water route" is described by a Manitoba pioneer, Mr. J. C. Stuart, in the *Manitoba Free Press* of Winnipeg for January 23. He relates that the difficulties of travel by boat and wagon were so great that he undertook to walk the final 120 miles from the Lake of the Woods to the fort.

GENERAL MINNESOTA ITEMS

The claim that the "first Minnesota farm" was on Prairie Island in the Mississippi River and that the farmers were none other than the explorers Radisson and Groseilliers, is made by Arthur T. Adams in the *Minneapolis Journal* for January 6.

Faculty members and employees who have served the University of Minnesota for thirty years or more were honored at the Charter Day exercises at the university on February 14. Dr. William W. Folwell, the first president of the university, celebrated his ninety-first birthday by delivering an address at these exercises on "How the University Secured Its Charter."

Some of the experiences of the Reverend James Sunderland as a Baptist missionary in Minnesota in the eighties are recounted in *Annals of a Life of Faith: An Autobiography, Reverend James Sunderland, D. D.* (Kansas City, 1923. 281 p.).

At a time when the restriction of immigration is one of the most important questions before Congress it is enlightening to find that during the latter half of the nineteenth century the various states were so anxious to secure immigrants that they sent agents both abroad and to New York to persuade newcomers to settle within their limits. Some Minnesota activities in this field are described in a feature article entitled "Minnesota Found Advertising Got Desired Immigrants in the Early Days" in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for January 20. A suggestive comparison is made between the Know-Nothing movement of the fifties and the Ku Klux Klan of the present. The article is based in part upon the documents published in the *BULLETIN* for August, 1923 (see *ante*, p. 167-203). Among the illustrations are some interesting views of Castle Garden, where immigrants landed previous to 1890.

The second spectacular campaign in the political career of Knute Nelson, "when he was a candidate for United States Senator against Senator William D. Washburn" in 1895, is the subject of a detailed narrative by Elmer E. Adams which is published in three installments in the *Fergus Falls Daily Journal* for January 4, 5, and 7. The author reaches the conclusion that Nelson during the gubernatorial campaign in the autumn of 1894 had pledged himself not to oppose Washburn for the senatorship. Mr. Adams' account of Nelson's campaign against Charles F. Kindred in 1882 appears in a previous number of the *BULLETIN* (see *ante*, p. 87-107).

A valuable account of the movement for woman suffrage in Minnesota from 1883 to 1900 appears in volume 4 of *The History of Woman Suffrage*, edited by Susan B. Anthony and Ida H. Harper (Rochester, 1902); and in volume 6 of the same work, edited by Ida H. Harper (New York, 1922), the story of the movement in Minnesota is brought down to the ratification of the federal amendment by the state legislature in 1919. The sketch of the movement from 1900 to 1919 is contributed by Mrs. S. A. Stockwell, "for ten years president of the State Suffrage Association and for over twenty years a member of its executive board."

An interesting chapter is added to the history of the dairy industry in Minnesota by Charles F. Collisson in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for March 2. He describes the careers of two Owatonna women, Mrs. Mina L. Holmes and Mrs. J. H. McRostie, who first won fame for Minnesota as a butter-producing state by taking prizes at international expositions.

The circumstances which caused a "scarcity of lumber in Minnesota a half century ago, when millions of acres of virgin timber stood untouched by ax or saw," are described in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for February 12. According to this account the "spring floods which were depended on to float the timber to market, did not materialize" in 1863 and 1864 and many of the sawmills around St. Paul were forced to close because they could not get logs. The terrible log jam in the spring of 1865 on the St. Croix River also is described in this article, which is based upon contemporary newspaper comment. Early lumbering in the state is the subject of another article entitled "How Pirates Bold of Minnesota Logging Days Stripped Timber," which is contributed to the *Pioneer Press* of February 3 by C. C. Kelly, a pioneer lumberman at Grand Rapids.

Some reminiscences of Fort Ridgely during the Sioux War of 1862, related by Mr. O. H. Clarke of Minneapolis, form the basis of a feature article in the *Minneapolis Journal* for March 30.

An interesting account of the Fisk expedition of 1862 and of some of the adventures as a vigilante in Montana of one of its members, Nathaniel P. Langford of St. Paul, is presented by Don Stetson in the *St. Paul Daily News* for February 17. Items of local interest are stressed throughout the article, which is based upon Langford's personal narrative and upon contemporary newspaper comment.

Charles Henry Prior, 1833-1921 is the title of a little pamphlet (37 p.) telling about the activities of a prominent Minnesota civil engineer, railway official, and business man. The booklet has been compiled mainly from the diary of Mr. Prior, which was begun in 1853 and continued faithfully for sixty-eight years. The few extracts and summaries now printed indicate that

the diary as a whole contains a mine of material on the history of transportation and other business enterprises in Minneapolis and elsewhere in the state.

An attractive booklet entitled *George H. Haven* (15 p.) has been issued in commemoration of the life and services of a prominent Minnesota business man who died on August 5, 1923, at his home in Chatfield.

A brief article bearing the title "Michael J. Dowling, the Story of a 'Game Man,'" is printed in the *Journal* of the American Irish Historical Society for 1923.

A sketch of Charles T. Cavalier, a pioneer who settled first near St. Paul and in 1851 at Pembina, North Dakota, appears in number 2 of the *Statehood Souvenir* issued by the Red River Valley Old Settlers' Association.

In the Twin City papers of the past three months numerous biographical sketches and reminiscent stories of pioneers are published. These include outlines of the careers of Mr. William de la Barre, who has been connected with the milling interests at the Falls of St. Anthony since 1878, in the *Minneapolis Journal* for January 29, and of Mr. Jacob J. Folsom, a Hinkley business man, in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for March 30; accounts of the adventures of Mr. Nicholas Faber of St. Paul, "a retired city fireman, who served thirty-two years, beginning in 1881," and of Detective Philip W. Schweitzer of St. Paul, who "is on record at Central police station as the earliest to enter service," in the *Pioneer Press* for January 27 and February 3; and a narrative of the experiences of Mr. John Ahern of St. Paul as an Indian fighter after the Custer massacre, in the *St. Paul Daily News* for March 23. Mrs. George F. Wilkins of Minneapolis recalls early days at the University of Minnesota, with which she was connected both as a student and as an instructor in the seventies, in the *Journal* for January 27. An account of the visit to St. Paul of Archbishop Samuel P. Matheson of Winnipeg, in the *St. Paul Dispatch* for February 19, includes his recollections of the Red River settlement and of a journey to Minnesota's capital in 1876.

LOCAL HISTORY ITEMS

Perhaps the most important recent development in the field of Minnesota local history is the organization of the Ramsey County Historical Society. Last fall a committee of the Fourth District Federation of Women's Clubs, with Mrs. Ernest J. Stiefel of St. Paul as chairman, was appointed to take preliminary steps toward the establishment of such a society. An organization meeting was held on January 25 and after talks by Dr. Solon J. Buck, superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society, and the Honorable Arthur E. Nelson, mayor of St. Paul, temporary officers were chosen and a committee was appointed to draw up a constitution. On February 29 this committee reported at a meeting called by the temporary president and a constitution based upon the model constitution printed in the *BULLETIN* for February-May, 1922, was adopted. Officers elected to serve until the annual meeting in May were: Mr. Edward P. Davis, president; Mayor Arthur E. Nelson, first vice president; Miss Mary V. Carney, second vice president; Mrs. Stiefel, secretary; and Mr. Earnest H. Davidson, treasurer. The constitution provides for two classes of active members, — life and annual, — the dues for the former being a single payment of twenty-five dollars and for the latter one dollar a year. In addition to the regular officers the society is to have a board of directors composed of the officers and nine elected members. The society is to be affiliated with the Minnesota Historical Society as an institutional member and provision is made for an annual report to the superintendent of the state society. Thus the foundations have been laid for organized local history activity in Ramsey County.

In another county of the state important progress in local history organization has been made. As early as 1893 an old settlers' association was organized in Becker county, but this society seems to have had a short existence. In 1923 an informal movement to mark a local site of historic interest led to the organization of the Becker County Historical Society. This institution was reorganized at a meeting held in Detroit on January 25, 1924, new by-laws were adopted, and the following officers were elected: Dr. L. C. Weeks, president; Miss Sadie Dunning,

vice-president; and Mr. E. J. Bestick, secretary-treasurer. The society has collected a considerable number of pictures of scenes and persons connected with Becker County history and possesses files of some of the early newspapers published in the county. It also has assembled the nucleus for a collection of Indian and other relics of historical interest. The society has been given the use of a room in the public library of Detroit.

These new developments in Ramsey and Becker counties make it evident that the movement for the organization of local history work is gaining force in Minnesota. There are indications that attempts to form local historical societies will soon be made in Hennepin, Faribault, and Olmsted counties.

The St. Louis County Historical Society continues its public activity. Among the topics of the papers and addresses given at a meeting held in Duluth on March 3 were the following: "Memoir of Joseph Pecore, a Pioneer of the Northwest," by Cotter Randall of Duluth; "Historical Background of Jay Cooke State Park," by Henry Oldenburg of Carlton; "A Simple Statement of Geologic Facts Regarding the Minnesota Iron Ranges," by J. Fred Wolff of Duluth; "Some Early History of the Duluth Canal," by John H. Darling of Duluth; and the "Fragmentary Diary of Mrs. Edmund Franklin Ely," by Mrs. A. T. Banning, Jr., of Duluth.

A detailed account of "The Battle of New Ulm" in 1862 by Colonel Charles E. Flandrau is printed in a special "auto and style show edition" of the *New Ulm Review*, issued on February 20. In a prefatory note it is explained that Colonel Flandrau wrote the narrative for Mr. Parker Peirce, now of Kamiah, Idaho, for use in a book which the latter was preparing "years ago." Mr. Peirce, who wrote a volume on the Sioux War, did not make use of the Flandrau account and recently he submitted it for publication in the *Review*. In the same number of this paper appears a description of a "Military Ball at Fort Ridgely" on February 22, 1865, by Mrs. G. C. Ashby.

Accounts of the early settlement of Sheldon, Winnebago, and Union townships have been added during the past three months to the histories of Houston County townships which the *Caledonia*

Journal is publishing serially (see *ante*, p. 394). The first settlers and pioneer milling enterprises at Deer Creek in Otter Tail county are described in the *Fergus Falls Daily Journal* for January 30.

The growth since 1898 of the Mankato Citizens' Telephone Company is the subject of an article in the *Mankato Free Press* for March 29.

The history of the Rochester Baptist Church, which was founded in 1857, is reviewed in the *Rochester Daily Post and Record* for January 31.

The annual meeting of the Read's Landing Association, composed of former residents of the little town on the Mississippi River, was held in Minneapolis on March 22.

The story of the old Sawyer House at Stillwater (see *ante*, p. 460) is reviewed in an illustrated feature article in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for February 17. The old hotel was erected in 1860 and was a center of activity in Stillwater during the years of the city's greatest prosperity. Some of the prominent men who have been guests at the hotel are mentioned and important events which have taken place there are noted in the article.

A brief history of Ericksonville in Mille Lacs County and a sketch of Lars Erickson for whom the town was named appear in the *Onamia Teamwork* for January 17.

Among the subjects recently dealt with by Benjamin Back-number in his sketches of "St. Paul Before This" in the *St. Paul Daily News* are "Newspapers in the 80's," January 20; "Press Association Beginnings," February 10; and some early local printers, March 9.

The seventieth anniversary of the incorporation of the city of St. Paul was celebrated by a special luncheon at the St. Paul Athletic Club on March 5 at which speeches were made on "A Look into the Past," by Judge Thomas D. O'Brien; on "St. Paul Today," by L. R. S. Ferguson; and on "The Problem of Tomorrow," by Paul N. Meyers.

The development of St. Paul as a railroad center is traced in an article in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for January 27. Among

the events which have marked the city's progress are noted the building of its first railroad in 1862, the formation of the St. Paul Union Depot Company in 1879, the completion of the first union passenger depot in 1881, and the erection of the present handsome station.

An interesting celebration, held in St. Paul on February 22, commemorated the twenty-fifth anniversary of the local council of the Knights of Columbus. A sketch of the history of this organization appears in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for February 17.

An account of the history of the St. Anthony Turnverein, which was founded in 1857 by German pioneers, appears in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for January 27.

Various phases of the musical development of Minneapolis are described in a group of articles in the *Minneapolis Journal* for February 17. The history of the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra since its organization in 1903 is reviewed, and accounts of the growth of the MacPhail School of Music and of the Minneapolis School of Music, Oratory, and Dramatic Art are presented. In the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for January 20 is a brief sketch of the career of Leberich Otto, who is said to have "organized the first band in the Northwest" at St. Paul.

Special services were conducted on February 10, 11, and 12, at St. Olaf Lutheran Church of Minneapolis in honor of the fiftieth anniversary of its founding.

The planning and building of the Church of the Holy Trinity of Minneapolis in 1873 are described in an article in the *Minneapolis Journal* of March 2. Extracts from letters written by the pastor, the Reverend George L. Chase, reveal that he designed the structure; members of his congregation, including Dr. William W. Folwell, are said to have aided in its construction. A picture of the old Gothic church appears with the article.



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](#).