

## Reviews of Books

*A Short History of Canada for Americans.* By ALFRED LEROY BURT.  
(Minneapolis, The University of Minnesota Press, 1942. xvi, 279 p.  
Illustrations, maps. \$3.00.)

Professor Burt is one of those inconsiderate historians who, having written a book, leave the reviewer between the horns of a dilemma. He must either lean heavily upon the publisher's blurb or make what mountainous errors he may of the writer's molehills. And that is a hard choice. Even the most hardened reviewer shrinks from the charge that he has been too lazy to read the book and therefore is reduced to quoting the blurb. And, in this case the other horn of the dilemma is equally uncomfortable, because Mr. Burt has left next to nothing to cavil at. What's the use of reviewing a book if you cannot pick holes in it!

It would be difficult indeed to find a man better equipped to describe the history of Canada to American readers. Born and largely educated in Canada, with the scholarly background and the experience of one who has filled the chair of history in both a Canadian and an American university, with knowledge of what the average American needs particularly to be told about the story of his northern neighbor, with the advantage of several books in the same field that had already been accepted as authoritative on both sides of the international boundary, and with the far from negligible gift of a clear and agreeable style—how could A. L. Burt fail in interpreting Canada to the people of the United States?

It has been particularly interesting to compare this book with Mr. Burt's *Romance of Canada*, prepared for use in Canadian schools, and to see how the emphasis has been shifted from one thing to another. Certain matters are taken for granted by Canadians because they have become part of their lives; but even educated Americans are often confused by their recollection of conditions in Canada that had disappeared many years ago, or that in some cases had never existed. Other questions, such as the extent to which Canada has become completely self-governing by reason of the Statute of Westminster, are made more understandable to both Canadians and Americans by Mr. Burt's admirably clear and concise interpretation.

Not less important is the light thrown upon the little-understood character of the French-Canadian habitant, both in the days of New France and today. He was, in the Canada of the seventeenth century, a very different person from the peasant of France, a well-dressed fellow with good manners, instead of a coarse and boorish rustic, and very far from servile in his attitude toward the governor, the seignior, and the church. "He was a typical farmer of the North American frontier, where nature made men free and equal by enabling all to become economically independent. A man who thus stood erect on his own feet and could look the whole world in the face was not likely to be a hewer of wood and a drawer of water for his church, no matter how much he might be devoted to it, and there can be no question of his devotion. Every Sunday, unless he happened to be away off in the woods, he went to church with all his family; and throughout his life the best and wisest friend he ever had was the curé. Yet the habitant was no slave of the clergy, as a glance at the history of the tithe will show."

Other characteristics besides an independent spirit, among French Canadians, may be traced back to early colonial days. The great Intendant Talon "encouraged early marriages and large families by generous bounties," and he taught the people to be self-supporting. He was able to report to the home government, "I am now clothed from foot to head with home-made articles."

Particularly commendable is the way in which Mr. Burt has handled a story that happens to be rather disjointed both geographically and politically. Without straining the facts he keeps in true perspective the relationship between east and center and west, French and English and New Canadian; and he succeeds where other historians have failed in doing reasonable justice to the history of the Maritimes and of western Canada.

Still, one must make some effort to redeem one's reputation as a hard-boiled reviewer. There seems here to be an assumption, in dealing with conditions in Nova Scotia in the latter part of the eighteenth century, that the sentiment of the people was decidedly sympathetic to the revolution in the thirteen colonies and that the Nova Scotians were "unwilling prisoners of British power." Does this not take too little account of the loyal element? Is there sufficient evidence that no considerable proportion of the New Englanders in Nova Scotia were loyal?

Also one is inclined to cavil at the statement, in connection with the events that led to the War of 1812, that the "impressment of men sailing

under the Stars and Stripes was the British counterpart of the unrestricted submarine campaign launched by the Germans a century later, in that it touched American lives." Surely it touched American lives in a very different way. Indeed one had the idea that, so far as Americans were concerned, the impressment of men — assumed to be British seamen — found on United States ships was rather a matter of American *amour-propre* than of American lives.

In telling the curiously involved story of the international boundary Mr. Burt obviously could not find room for some minor details; indeed it is amazing that he has managed to get so much real meat into such a small sausage. One of these minor details has to do with the fragment of Minnesota that was cut off when it was decided to drop the boundary due south from the Northwest Angle to the forty-ninth parallel; and another was the still smaller isolated fragment of Point Roberts that became United States territory when the boundary reached the Pacific.

In contrasting the rival fur-trading companies of Canada, Mr. Burt rather gives one the impression that the Northwest Company was an organization of French Canadians, while the Hudson's Bay Company was Scottish. The canoemen were of course French, and so were some of the clerks, but the bourgeois or partners bore such names as McGillivray, Mackenzie, Fraser, McTavish, McLeod, Shaw, Grant, McKay, McGill, Macdonell, Cameron, McDonald, Finlay, Leith, Ellice, and Forsyth, and one finds only two French names, Rocheblave and Chaboillez.

The opinion attributed to the Hudson's Bay Company that the establishment of the Selkirk colony "meant that in a few years food might be produced there more cheaply than it could be bought on the other side of the Atlantic" may be correct, but one recalls the famous Parliamentary inquiry in which Sir George Simpson found himself in an awkward predicament when asked to explain two conflicting statements. He had just testified, as governor of the company, that the land was useless for settlement, being permanently frozen a short distance below the surface. It was pointed out to him that in his *Narrative of a Journey Round the World* he had described the country along Rainy River as an earthly paradise, and had become lyrical in his enthusiasm over its colonization possibilities. Now Simpson's difficulty was that he was suspected of having engaged the services of a literary ghost in preparing his book for publication, and he must now either admit that someone else had written his book or that his opinions as an individual and as governor were hopelessly at

variance. As I recall the incident he tried to play safe, and convinced no one; but there does not seem to be any doubt about the company's policy to discourage settlement.

Also some students of the history of the period will not altogether agree with Mr. Burt's picture of the conflict between the Northwest Company on one side and Selkirk and the Hudson's Bay Company on the other. The villainy was not all on the side of the Nor'Westers, as witness the account of the death of Benjamin Frobisher in Masson's *Bourgeois de la compagnie du nord-ouest*.

Among the book's many merits is the really admirable collection of illustrations that the author has managed to get together; and the book is in other respects very creditable to the University of Minnesota Press.

LAWRENCE J. BURPEE

*The Republic of the United States: A History*, vol. I, 1493-1865. By JEANNETTE P. NICHOLS and ROY F. NICHOLS. (New York, D. Appleton-Century Company, 1942. xvii, 638 p. Illustrations, maps. \$3.50.)

The teacher of history is sometimes almost bewildered by the numbers of new textbooks that come to his desk at the request of those personable young men, the publishers' college representatives. Some of the books, one is inclined to suppose, were written hurriedly with the thought of royalty checks uppermost in the mind of the author. Occasionally, however, a volume appears which is delightful in its treatment of a familiar theme and which gives a timely interpretation to a well-known story. In the latter class is the first volume of this two-volume history of the *Republic of the United States*.

The Nichols' account of the history of our country is not in the tradition of Von Ranke, but rather it follows the pattern of the "new" history, exemplified, for example, by the volumes in the *History of American Life* series. Political and diplomatic history are not neglected. In fact, much emphasis is placed on the way in which Americans have learned to govern themselves; but the political aspects of the story have been interwoven with the economic, social, and cultural developments. The West and Southwest have received adequate treatment, yet in their desire to do justice to those sections the authors have somewhat slighted the East. The style is clear and readable, although it lacks the literary quality of that possessed by a Samuel E. Morison or an Edward C. Kirkland.

Justification for the volume is found in the interpretation given to the history, an interpretation of particular significance today. The emphasis is on "the reasons for, and the course of, the growth of this spirit of common endeavor," of democracy, of each citizen's responsibility for effective government. The authors feel keenly the value of the American experiment in self-government, and believe that a knowledge of its growth and the dangers that threatened it in the past will help insure its continuance and expansion in the future. The last sentence in the book is typical of the constant attention given the theme of the republic: "His [*Lincoln's*] idealized figure was to become symbolic in the national ethics, a force for the preservation of the democratic experiment."

The book is divided into three main sections of roughly two hundred pages each. The first, entitled "Creating a Society," covers the years from 1493 to 1763; section two, "Establishing Independence," deals with the period from 1763 to 1819; and the final section, "Multiplying and Dividing," treats of the years 1819 to 1865. For the benefit of the student and general reader there are introductory paragraphs at the beginning of each chapter, cross references to subject matter dealt with in different parts of the book, forty-one illustrations, and twenty-one maps. Selected references for further reading are found at the end of each chapter, and a reading plan and bibliography are included in the back of the volume. The appendix contains the Declaration of Independence, the Constitution, and tables of presidential elections and cabinets.

If the second volume of *The Republic of the United States* maintains the high level achieved by the first, the work will take its place among the best surveys of American history.

MERRILL E. JARCHOW

*The Continental Congress.* By EDMUND CODY BURNETT. (New York, The Macmillan Company, 1941. xvii, 757 p. \$6.00.)

The annals of our Revolutionary period are greatly enriched with the publication of this volume. The reasons are not far to seek. Dr. Burnett has given many years of scholarly activity to the study of the Continental Congress. Under the aegis of the Carnegie Institution of Washington, he assembled the known letters written by the members of Congress between 1774 and 1789 and culled from them the more significant passages. These he edited with excellent judgment and meticulous care. Issued between 1921 and 1936 in eight stout volumes and equipped with copious footnotes

and cross references, *Letters of Members of the Continental Congress* immediately became a major source for this period. That monumental work supplemented the meager official journal of Congress, cast a penetrating light on obscure transactions, and uncovered many a spring of human action. Most editors of documents, their tasks completed, retire from the field. Not so Dr. Burnett. In the volume under review he has used his unsurpassed knowledge to impart to the general reader, as well as to the scholar, the distilled essence of his researches.

In *The Continental Congress* the author seeks to "present the more significant phases of the drama called the American Revolution as they were enacted on the central stage." In Congress "most of the great actors in the drama played their stellar parts," and "many of the lesser actors oftentimes strode or strutted." Having long communed with the actors, the author describes their activities with masterly skill. The method is chronological rather than topical. There are no footnotes, but the curious can turn with little trouble to the basic source described above. The literary style is clear and richly interpretative. It is adorned moreover with touches of humor — delightful to the reader and especially so to those who have known the warm glow of Dr. Burnett's personality. This book surpasses anything we have hitherto had on the subject. If it is not definitive, the reason is that the subject is too vast to be treated in one volume. Six concluding chapters deal with the period of neglect following the Revolutionary War when the states were "wrapped in the deceptive mantle of supposed self-sufficiency" or preparing to try their fortunes under the Constitution. Dr. Burnett is convinced that the old Congress made a greater positive contribution to our governmental structure than is usually conceded. That he has projected a further work on this aspect is welcome information.

CLARENCE W. RIFE

*The Man Who Sold Louisiana: The Career of Francois Barbe-Marbois.*

By E. WILSON LYON. (Norman, University of Oklahoma Press, 1942. xix, 240 p. Illustrations. \$2.75.)

In the author's words, this is the "first full-length study" of Barbé-Marbois. Of particular interest to students of American history are the chapters on Marbois' residence in the United States from 1779 to 1785, first as secretary to the French minister Luzerne and subsequently as French chargé d'affaires, and on his role in the sale of Louisiana. Separate

chapters are also devoted to his tenure as intendant in St. Dominique (modern Haiti), to his experiences during the French Revolution, and to his long service in the French government under the Directory and under Napoleon and succeeding governments until near the end of his very long life.

Marbois' prime interest in government was in finance. And it was in his capacity as finance minister to Napoleon that he handled the details of the sale of Louisiana. An interesting side light in this connection is the account of the arrangement Marbois made with the English banking house of Baring to take the American bonds floated to raise the purchase price; England and France were at war at the time. A moderate in politics, he suffered but one period of exile. And it is a remarkable phenomenon that such a public figure should have escaped the guillotine during the excesses of the French Revolution. His well-known honesty and efficiency as a financial administrator and a fairly well-defined sycophancy are the probable explanations. He was a convenient, servile, and trustworthy tool for any party or faction in power at the moment.

The book, well written and based on a wide study of sources in France and in the United States, is a distinct contribution to knowledge. But the absurd practice of relegating footnotes to end pages cannot be condoned.

CLARENCE E. CARTER

*The Old South: The Founding of American Civilization.* By THOMAS JEFFERSON WERTENBAKER. (New York, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1942. xiv, 364 p. Illustrations. \$3.50.)

The moonlight-and-roses-on-the-old-plantation school of historians, suh, is destined to receive a shock when its members read Professor Wertenbaker's book. Long years of careful study have made the author more familiar with colonial Virginia than any back countryman who followed Bacon as he bore the torch of the Revolution, or any councilman crony of Governor Berkeley, could ever have been. Professor Wertenbaker knows the Tidewater, the Piedmont, and the Valley of Virginia. He knows the people and understands their speech. He knows how they planted their corn and tobacco, how they got their crops to market, what they got for them, and how they spent the money. In the same intimate way, he knows and understands Maryland and the Carolinas. His book is a distillate of long study and careful scholarship.

This volume's thesis is that the roots of the present South run deep into the colonial period. Neither the New South nor the Old was a unit. "No part of the country was more complex," says Professor Wertenbaker, nor "had a larger number of conflicting groups and interests." It was homogeneous neither in nationality, nor religion, nor economics. Slavery and the soil gave a superficial unity, but in the various regions the patterns of culture were diverse.

Professor Wertenbaker wastes no effort in pedantic elaboration of this thesis. Instead, he illustrates it in independent essays on subjects ranging from the intellectual life of the tobacco aristocrats to the development of colonial architecture, the western migration, the arts and handicrafts of the colonial artisan, and the ownership, use, and abuse of the good earth. These essays show no solid South, no cavalier migration, but a land of middle-class and poorer folk. Here is a penetrating examination of the extent of commercial and industrial activities of the Southern colonials. Here, too, is an excellent summary of the way the colonial land system worked to create a landed aristocracy and an unsound economy. And here, above all, is the best available survey of Southern architecture. In fact, Professor Wertenbaker believes that Southern architecture was the only contribution which the American colonies made to the fine arts.

The book should be required reading for all those who have been bemused by the folklore of the Old South. They will, however, probably ignore it. But those who would understand the complex forces lying at the foundations of American civilization will give the volume a hearty acclaim.

W. B. HESSELTINE

*The Coming of the Civil War.* By AVERY CRAVEN. (New York, Charles Scribner's Sons, 1942. ix, 491 p. \$3.75.)

Professor Craven has written an argumentative book, which invites an argumentative review. The author's preface is much more modest than the blurb on the jacket. Mr. Craven disclaims any desire to be included among "revisionist" historians of the Civil War and affirms that he has not been interested in defending or attacking any section. In his zeal to set forth "new findings" that upset "orthodox" or Northern interpretations, however, he becomes militant and lays himself open to the same sort of criticism that has been leveled against the "old school." He has been remarkably successful in capturing the spirit of the times by piling

up a wealth of detail in "quotes" gathered from widely scattered sources. It all adds up to the "irrepressible" conflict, which revisionists, including Mr. Craven, have tried to prove was "repressible." Two chapters alone — "The Northern Attack on Slavery" and "The Southern Defense of Slavery" — furnish convincing testimony that the conflict was "irrepressible," humanly speaking, and historians have to do with human conduct.

In his quest for the explanation "why Americans only two generations away from the formation of their Union should have held positions so uncompromisable that only a war could alter them," Mr. Craven presents the familiar story of growing sectional antagonism in which slavery occupies the center of the stage. The familiar landmarks and personalities are there. No historian can escape them. Laws, compromises, resolutions, abolitionists, politicians, clergymen, journalists, teachers, and jurists are given a hearing. There are excellent accounts of political maneuvering and sparring, sectional crosscurrents, eddies of public sentiment, and sectional and political bullying. The author's treatment of the defenders of the institution of slavery, while critical, is more lenient than in the case of the abolitionists. There is a tendency to exaggerate the less intelligent antislavery propaganda and to find flaws in the personal lives of the propagandists and to slight levelheaded men like William Ellery Channing.

Why did the Wilmot Proviso, in which an insignificant member of Congress formulated the substance of the final form of the slavery controversy, stir the public and give sleepless nights to politicians? Mr. Craven guesses at Wilmot's motives, but that is beside the point. The important thing is that the member of Congress touched a vital nerve; and twelve years later the greatest American of all, who as an insignificant member of Congress voted for the proviso at every opportunity, gave it the sanction of his maturing mind in his prophetic "House Divided Speech."

In his discussion of the momentous Kansas-Nebraska Bill, Mr. Craven quotes with approval Douglas' vigorous and clever defense. The author thinks the "Little Giant" made a telling argument when he pointed out that Northern men had voted more than four to one against the Missouri Compromise and thereby accused Chase, Sumner, and Seward of playing politics in 1854, when they called it a sacred compact. The argument recoils on Douglas and proves, if it proves anything, that at the time Northern men were opposed to the extension of slavery. Where, then, was the inconsistency of Northern men in 1854 opposing a bill that opened more

territory to slavery? The realistic old Texan, Sam Houston, as Mr. Craven quotes him, perceived that the enactment of the Kansas-Nebraska Bill would convulse the country from Maine to the Rio Grande.

Viewing the Dred Scott decision from the vantage ground of the present, Mr. Craven finds little in it to excite public passions. At its worst the decision was nothing more than "a fatal error of judgment." A fatal error committed at a fateful moment by the Supreme Court is serious business. Lincoln thought so at the time and continued to think so when he wrote his cautious inaugural address. Douglas thought so, too, when he tried to reconcile it with his doctrine of popular sovereignty. It is true, as Mr. Craven points out, that Justice Taney had freed his own slaves; but he went a mile out of his way to complicate the efforts of moderates in both sections to find a way to a better understanding.

These items have been selected from among several to illustrate Mr. Craven's interpretation of major issues in the slavery controversy. It is a bit unfair to make such a selection, however, because a book should be judged in its entirety. Let us therefore give attention to the reactions after the reader has laid down the book.

It is obvious that there were moderates and extremists on both sides; that the abolitionists were never more than a small minority; that secession was engineered and put through by a minority; but beneath the vituperation that gushed forth, and the conflicting economic and social differences, was the moral iniquity of human bondage, which the abolitionists never lost sight of. As compared with contemporary systems of labor — and the men of the South were fond of making this comparison — slavery does not come off so badly; but the South cannot escape the reproach of attempting to silence the prophets of a better day for men and women who toiled and who were given a hearing in the North.

Which section completely fastened slavery to the sectional controversy? Which section was blinder to the natural frontiers of slavery? Who paved the way for the sectional Republican party and its successful candidate for the presidency in 1860? What historian can justify the rashness of the secessionists in 1860-61, who maneuvered a minority president — a wise, calm, just, and charitable man — into a position where he had no course other than to defend the integrity of the Union and the authority of the government? The fact remains that the South seceded after the election of a conservative president, who had been cautious and moderate in statement to the point of exasperation from the radicals, and who continued

to be tender of the feelings of sections and individuals throughout four bloody years.

Pearl Harbor should teach a lesson to historians of the Civil War: An act of violence can arouse and unite a people who had previously been divided by propaganda infinitely more subtle than that which was broadcast in the twenty years before the Civil War. "The old North Carolina soldier at Appomatox was right," says Mr. Craven. "It is a serious thing to love a country."

No truer words were ever written by a historian than were those spoken by Abraham Lincoln on March 4, 1865: "The slaves constituted a peculiar and powerful interest. All knew that this interest was, somehow, the cause of the war. To strengthen, perpetuate and extend this interest was the object for which the insurgents would rend the Union, even by war; while the government claimed no right to do more than to restrict the territorial enlargement of it."

GEORGE M. STEPHENSON

*Papers of Edward P. Costigan relating to the Progressive Movement in Colorado, 1902-1917* (University of Colorado, *Historical Collections*, vol. 4, *Political Series*, vol. 1). Edited by COLIN B. GOODYKOONTZ. (Boulder, University of Colorado, 1941. xiv, 379 p. Portrait. \$2.50.)

"When bad men combine, good men should associate; otherwise they will fall, one by one, useless sacrifices in a contemptible struggle." In writing these words, Edward P. Costigan was warning Americans that their cherished democracy was first endangered by assault from within. Between 1900 and America's entrance into the first World War in 1917 Costigan and his colleagues of the Progressive movement were conducting a vigorous crusade against what they felt to be a betrayal of the principles of democratic government. The scope, purposes, and spirit of this crusade are faithfully revealed in this collection of letters, speeches, legal briefs, and political manifestoes, culled from the Costigan Papers in the possession of the University of Colorado. In selecting the documents, Professor Goodykoontz of the university's department of history has aimed "to set forth Costigan's social and political principles, and incidentally to describe and illustrate the progressive movement in Colorado." This goal he has admirably achieved, and surpassed, for there are numerous letters with interesting information on Roosevelt, La Follette, and other

Progressive leaders. In editorial capacity, Professor Goodykoontz has supplemented the material with brief but adequate historical and explanatory notes.

Costigan's contribution to the movement during the period covered by these papers was largely educational. Defeated in 1912 and again in 1914 as the Progressive candidate for governor, he held no political office until his appointment to the federal tariff commission in 1917. As a speaker, organizer, and people's attorney, his influence was, however, considerable. Like Roosevelt, he was a college graduate, a man of broad culture, who spoke and wrote with charm and knowledge, and who felt keenly his responsibilities as a citizen. He was no excessively optimistic or shallow reformer. He agreed that there was little hope for "absolute relief" until human nature was "considerably altered, or very differently controlled in its expression," but he would not stand pat while democracy staggered painfully among its foes.

In his adopted state he found representative government "a jest and a contemptuous by-word among the officers, agents, and attorneys of certain large aggregations of capital." He believed that the "claim of necessary self-defense" by which special interests justified the corruption of politics was "rather a cloak to cover unjust aggrandizement." To meet the situation, to make civilization more humane, and to distribute wealth and opportunity more equally, Costigan devoted his energies to numerous issues. There are documents relating to civil service reform, the State Voter's League, the direct primary, the direct election of senators, feminine suffrage, limitation of judicial powers, and many lesser aspects of the machinery of democracy.

He was also interested in economic issues, believing that "economic justice, logically as well as strategically, precedes much moral betterment through government." In quest of social and economic justice he fought to protect the public interest in Denver utility franchises, to conserve natural resources, to secure fair railroad rates, and particularly to win more rights for labor. Colorado was racked with labor strife during much of this period, and many of the later documents of this collection are concerned with this problem. Costigan's position was clear: "Labor represents manhood, womanhood, and childhood. Capital represents machinery and earnings. Labor is therefore more important." The labor problems of Colorado were the result of years of denial of social, industrial, and political justice, which Costigan believed should be corrected through

recognition of the unions, and just governmental policing of industrial relations.

Costigan's career did not, of course, end in 1917, but his later years have been covered in another volume of papers, issued in 1940 under the title *Public Ownership of Government*. Progressivism as a party program of national importance failed to survive the first World War and public preoccupation with international issues, yet a nation now engaged in a second World War to protect democracy may profitably remember the purpose and spirit of men like Edward Costigan, to whom citizenship in peacetime was a high responsibility.

WILFRED O. STOUT, JR.

*The Minnesota Commission of Administration and Finance, 1925-1939: An Administrative History* (Public Administration Training Center, University of Minnesota, *Studies in Administration*, no. 1). By LLOYD M. SHORT, PH.D., and CARL W. TILLER, A.M. (Minneapolis, The University of Minnesota Press, 1942. xiii, 160 p. \$2.00.)

Fresh evidence of the strong movement to make government service a profession is offered in this interesting booklet prepared by the director of the public administration training center of the University of Minnesota and his associate.

In 1925 Minnesota viewed with pride the establishment of a three-man administrative commission designed to modernize the business of the state, to secure efficiency and economy, and to prevent corruption. Not all these results were achieved, primarily because the legislature was never very co-operative and consequently appropriations were usually inadequate; difficulties arose between the members of the commission and the auditor and, in the later period, between the members of the commission; the personnel division became a "central employment and patronage office"; and the organization was inherently weak in several respects, particularly in the lack of a complete budgetary accounting system. Nevertheless it accustomed legislators and departments to centralized budgeting and thus paved the way for further improvements incorporated in the establishment of a centralized business office under the commissioner of administration in 1939.

The authors show in some detail the long pull to secure efficient government and cite the effective help of such citizen organizations as the

League of Women Voters, the Minnesota League of Municipalities, and the Minnesota Taxpayers Association. Analysis of the work of the commission covers organization, budget procedure, personnel problems, and the administrative practices.

This publication is of more than historical importance; it points the way to better government in the future. Throughout the chronicle, but particularly in the concluding chapter, emphasis is laid on the necessity for efficient personnel, for selection of administrators who work together harmoniously, for adequate appropriations, and for a merit system to keep selection of employees out of party politics. The book will be valuable to students of state government and will evoke keen interest among citizens of the state.

GLADYS C. BLAKEY

## Minnesota Historical Society Notes

IN PLANNING its twentieth summer tour and convention, which was scheduled for 1942, the society gave due consideration to the wartime situation, involving curtailment of travel and the saving of tires. Consequently the meeting was held near the Twin Cities, at Fort Snelling, and was confined to a single session on Sunday, June 14, Flag Day. The program, which was arranged jointly by the society and the commissioned and enlisted personnel of the fort, was appropriately built about military and patriotic themes. Attendance figures left little doubt of the appeal of these themes, for no less than twenty-five thousand people witnessed the ceremonies that preceded the program in the Field House, where a capacity audience of five thousand assembled.

The Flag Day celebration opened at 2:00 P.M. on the polo field before the marquee, which was occupied by officers and their wives, members of the society's executive council, and a few invited guests. Passing in review before the marquee and the vast audience that lined the field were companies of the Third United States Infantry, a regiment that has been closely identified with Fort Snelling for more than half a century, and the 701st and 710th Military Police battalions. In an impressive ceremony, the recently established 710th Battalion received a regimental color from Colonel Sidney Erickson, assistant chief of staff of the Seventh Corps Area with headquarters at Omaha. He represented the commanding general of the area, Major General F. E. Uhl, who was unable to be present.

The program that followed in the Fort Snelling Field House opened at 3:00 P.M. with a brief address of welcome by Colonel Harry J. Keeley, commandant of the fort. He called attention to the ties that bind the military post and its neighbor cities of St. Paul and Minneapolis, noting that the settlement of what is now a great metropolitan area began with the establishment of the fort in 1819. He mentioned also the pleasant relationship between the Fort Snelling authorities and the Minnesota Historical Society, as exemplified in their joint sponsorship of the Round Tower Museum. Colonel Keeley then turned the meeting over to Dr. Lester B. Shippee, president of the society, who presided. After noting the appropriateness of the fort as a meeting place for the society and expressing his appreciation for the co-operation of the men stationed there, Dr. Shippee

introduced Colonel Erickson. He extended to the audience the greetings of General Uhl and announced that, as a native son of Minnesota, he specially appreciated the privilege of representing his commanding officer on this occasion. The importance of Flag Day in this year of crisis, in the midst of a war whose history "is being written in sacrifice," was emphasized by Colonel Erickson. He pointed out, however, that tribute is due to the Minnesota State Guard as well as to forces from the state in service overseas, to industrial workers and farmers as well as to soldiers and sailors.

After the playing of the *Stars and Stripes Forever* by the Fort Snelling Reception Center Band, Dr. Shippee called upon Brigadier General Harold E. Wood of the Minnesota State Guard for the principal address of the afternoon. Taking as his subject "The Shape of Things to Come," the speaker showed how the history of Minnesota and, particularly, of Fort Snelling is related to the war in which we are now engaged. His address appears in full elsewhere in this issue. The singing of the national anthem by the audience brought the meeting to a close.

Hundreds of the visitors remained at the fort, however, to visit the Round Tower Museum, where a special exhibit relating to the Third Infantry had been arranged by members of the society's staff. This regiment, which traces its history back to 1784, has been stationed with headquarters at Fort Snelling almost continuously since 1888. Among the interesting items on display were regimental colors, including a battle flag with the names of the battles in which the regiment has participated; battle streamers, also bearing the names of such encounters; rifles and other firearms typical of various periods in the regiment's history; a souvenir of its participation in the Mexican War of 1846 in the form of a wooden baton mounted with silver, acquired in Mexico City; a series of photographs illustrating the trek of the Third from Fort Sheridan, Illinois, to Fort Snelling in the fall of 1921; and four cases of manuscript records relating to the movements of the regiment. Copies of a folder describing the murals in the Round Tower were distributed to visitors. The pictures, representing episodes in the history of the fort, are the work of Richard Haines; the text of the folder was prepared by Dr. Grace Lee Nute, the society's curator of manuscripts.

B. L. H.

The society's secretary and superintendent, Dr. Arthur J. Larsen, has been granted a leave of absence to accept a commission as first lieutenant

in the Army Air Force. He will leave St. Paul on September 16 and report for duty at Miami Beach, Florida, where he will enter the Army Air Force Officers' Training School.

Dr. Nute has signed a contract with Bobbs-Merrill and Company for the writing of a volume on Lake Superior to be included in that company's projected series on the Great Lakes.

Two life members, Louise T. Dossall of St. Paul and William G. Purcell of Pasadena, California, and one sustaining member, Walter C. Coffey of Minneapolis, joined the society during the quarter ending on June 30. Annual members enrolled during the same period are Edward A. Boyden of St. Paul, Everett F. Collins of Coldwater, Michigan, Abbott J. Gould of Minneapolis, Frederick W. Lasby of Minneapolis, Ensign William N. Rom of the U.S.S. "Maryland," Nellie Sloan of Chisago City, and B. A. Webster of Mason City, Iowa.

In the first six months of 1942 the society lost three active members by death: Gertrude Ann Jacobsen of Minneapolis on March 3, Dr. Hallward M. Blegen of Warren on April 1, and Dr. Victor Nilsson of Minneapolis on April 7.

Members of the society's staff presented fifteen talks and addresses before audiences in various parts of Minnesota and the Northwest in the quarter ending on June 30. Mr. Larsen spoke on "Minnesota in the Defense of America" before the Lion's Club of Stillwater on April 7, on "The Historical Society in Wartime" before a meeting of the McLeod County Historical Society at Silver Lake on April 20, on "The Historical Society and the Community" before the Lake Pepin Valley Historical Society at Lake City on April 27, and on "The Records of the People at War" before the Fourth District Federation of Women's Clubs meeting in St. Paul on April 28. "The History and Natural History of Northeastern Minnesota" was the subject of a talk presented by Miss Nute before the Minnesota Bird Club at the University of Minnesota on April 8. She spoke also before the Minneapolis Audubon Club on "Birds in England" on May 1, before the Radcliffe Club of the Twin Cities meeting in South St. Paul on "Voyageur Land" on May 27, before the Zonta Club of St. Paul on "Bird Life of Minnesota" on June 9, before the Thunder Bay Historical Society at Fort William, Ontario, on "Radisson and Des Groseil-

liers' on June 29, and before the Fort William Rotary Club on the Webster-Ashburton treaty on June 30. At Bayport on April 29 Mr. Babcock spoke on "The St. Croix Valley in Days of Yore" before a meeting of the Washington County Historical Society; he gave talks entitled "Introducing Minnesota" before the Adrian Club of St. Paul on May 12 and before a Methodist ladies aid society at Crookston on May 27; and he spoke again at the latter place on the same day before the Polk County Historical Society on "Community Memory." Miss Jerabek attended the Silver Lake meeting of the McLeod County Historical Society on April 20, speaking on the early history and Czech backgrounds of the village.

### CONTRIBUTORS

Widely known for his writings in the field of Canadian exploration, as well as for his services as Canadian secretary of the International Joint Commission, is Mr. Lawrence J. Burpee of Ottawa. His paper on "A Hundred Years of North America" was presented at Fort William, Ontario, on a program designed to mark the centennial of the Webster-Ashburton treaty of 1842. As a result of that treaty, Minnesota's northern boundary from the mouth of the Pigeon River to the Northwest Angle of the Lake of the Woods was defined, and the Arrowhead country, with its vast iron deposits, became part of the United States. Since the commission of which Mr. Burpee has long been a member deals with boundary disputes, it was peculiarly appropriate that he should represent his government on the Fort William program. Mr. Burpee has published numerous books and articles and he has edited the journals of several explorers and traders, including La Vérendrye. He has contributed to this magazine an article on "Grand Portage" (*ante*, 12:359-377), and several book reviews. In the present issue he is represented, in addition to his article, by a review of Professor Burt's newly published history of Canada.

Brigadier General Harold E. Wood, whose Flag Day address, "The Shape of Things to Come," is presented herewith, is an officer in the Minnesota State Guard. In the first World War he served with the United States Marines, and he had attained the rank of captain before his discharge in 1919. In St. Paul, where he resides, General Wood is known as a leader in business and civic affairs. Among the offices he has held is that of president of the St. Paul branch of the Foreign Policy Association.

The structures designed by a progressive Minneapolis architect of the last century drew the attention of Mrs. Muriel B. Christison while she

was working as a graduate student in the department of fine arts of the University of Minnesota. Her paper on "LeRoy S. Buffington and the Minneapolis Boom of the 1880's" reflects her interest both in architecture and in the economic history of her home city. She received her master's degree from the University of Minnesota in 1941, and she is now a lecturer on the staff of the Minneapolis Institute of Arts. The second installment of Charles C. Trowbridge's journal of the Cass expedition of 1820, which has been edited by Professor Ralph H. Brown of the department of geography in the University of Minnesota, appears in this issue (see *ante*, p. 169). During the past summer, Dr. Brown has been engaged in field work in the vicinity of Park Rapids.

Eight writers, including Mr. Burpee, have contributed book reviews to the present issue of *Minnesota History*. Dr. Merrill E. Jarchow of the history faculty of the South Dakota State College of Agriculture at Brookings is the author of an article on "Early Minnesota Agricultural Societies and Fairs" in the issue of this magazine for September, 1941. Professor Clarence W. Rife teaches history in Hamline University at St. Paul. Since 1931 Dr. Clarence E. Carter has been engaged in editing the gigantic series of *Territorial Papers of the United States* now in the process of publication under the supervision of the department of state. Dr. William B. Hesseltine is professor of history in the University of Wisconsin and the author of a *History of the South* and other works in the field of Southern history. Professor George M. Stephenson of the history department in the University of Minnesota is a frequent contributor to this magazine and the author of several books in the fields of general American history and of Scandinavian-American history. Mr. Wilfred O. Stout, Jr., is a member of the history faculty in the University of Chattanooga. Mrs. Gladys C. Blakey of Minneapolis has collaborated with her husband, Professor Roy Blakey of the University of Minnesota, in the preparation of several books on taxation.

#### ACCESSIONS

A wealth of material about the history of the Third United States Infantry, which has been stationed at Fort Snelling almost continuously since 1888, is included in its archives, recently placed with the society for safekeeping. The regiment is known as the oldest infantry unit in the United States Army, since it can trace its origins back to 1784 and it was organized as the Third in 1815. Its records, covering more than a century

of military activity, consist of twelve boxes of letter books, descriptive lists, pay rolls, muster rolls, printed army regulations, and other items. Included in the collection also are insignia, trophies, and flags. Records of service in many parts of the United States and in Cuba, Mexico, and the Philippines are to be found in these archives.

Photostatic copies of approximately a hundred and twenty-five documents of Minnesota and Northwest interest have been received from the Public Archives of Canada. They relate mainly to the period between the American Revolution and the close of the War of 1812 and afford information on the fur trade, exploration, boundary claims and disputes, the War of 1812, the Red River settlements and Lord Selkirk, Prairie du Chien, Robert Dickson, and such traders as Charles Chaboillez, Joseph Renville, John Macdonell, and William McGillivray. Included are a meteorological record kept by a "Mr. McCrae" at "Lac la Mecam" in the winter of 1806-07, and a journal kept by William McGillivray in the Canadian Northwest about 1793. Fort William was named in McGillivray's honor.

Twenty-eight volumes of fur-trade records kept by Alexis Bailly at St. Peter's and Wabasha have been added to the collection of his papers already in the possession of the society by Mr. William H. Amerland of Wabasha (see *ante*, 5:61, 7:180). Daybooks, ledgers, accounts, inventories of goods used in the fur trade, and a few letters are included in this valuable collection, which covers the period from 1826 to 1851. Mr. Amerland also has presented a package of autographs.

A substantial addition to the papers of the Riggs family (see *ante*, 18:210, 444), pioneer missionaries in Minnesota and the Dakotas, is the gift of a grandson of the Reverend Stephen R. Riggs, Mr. H. S. Morris of Sisseton, South Dakota. It consists of 117 letters written from 1854 to 1883 chiefly to and by Mrs. Martha Riggs Morris, the donor's mother. She received many of the letters from her father, Stephen R. Riggs. In them the Minnesota missionary discusses such matters as his work on behalf of the Sioux, books prepared and published both in English and in Dakota, his translation of the Bible into Dakota, his experiences as chaplain with the Sibley expedition of 1862, and life at Beloit, Wisconsin, where he lived from 1865 until his death in 1883. Mrs. Morris' letters were written between 1854 and 1860 from Lac qui Parle, Hazelwood, and Oxford, Ohio, where she attended the Western Female Seminary. In a letter

of June 9, 1857, she describes the ransoming of Mrs. Margaret Ann Marble, who was captured by Indians in the Spirit Lake uprising of that year.

Information on land speculation in St. Paul from 1857 to 1880 is to be found in four account books and a few business papers of Charles A. and Caleb Morgan, recently received from Mr. Charles Everitt of New York.

Manuscripts of speeches and addresses, account and memorandum books, diaries, and other items filling four filing boxes have been added to the papers of Senator Knute Nelson through the estate of his daughter, the late Mrs. Ida G. Nelson of Alexandria (see *ante*, 14:437, 22:319). Included are the manuscript of a valedictory address presented at Albion Academy on June 28, 1865, notes for an autobiography, and a diary kept on a trip to Alaska in 1903. The account and memorandum books cover the period from 1872 to 1920. With the gift are two albums of views of Alexandria and about ninety portraits and other photographs illustrative of Senator Nelson's career. Many costumes, medals, pieces of silverware, and other personal items also were received from the Nelson estate.

The reminiscences of John DeLaittre, banker, miller, and mayor of Minneapolis from 1877 to 1878, have been presented by his son, Mr. John DeLaittre of Minneapolis. They cover the years from 1832 to 1910 and include information on DeLaittre's lumber milling activities at St. Anthony; the state prison at Stillwater, of which he was an inspector for six years; his activities as a member of the state board of capitol commissioners; and on gold mining in California.

The activities of the Architects Small House Service Bureau, Incorporated, from 1920 to the present are recorded in thirty-nine boxes of correspondence and other papers presented by its officers. The organization, which began in Minneapolis and became national in scope under the control of the American Institute of Architects, provides standard plans and expert advice at low costs to the builders of small houses.

A note for one dollar issued by the treasurer of West St. Paul on March 4, 1859, has been presented by Mrs. Imogene B. Ossmann of St. Paul. She is a granddaughter of G. W. H. Bell, the first mayor of West St. Paul.

Objects illustrative of pioneer life recently received include a nose pincer used on cattle and a sausage gun, from Mr. A. R. Johnson of St.

Paul. Mr. Warren Pladsen of St. Paul has presented a machine used by his great-grandfather for cutting clock gears.

A carved mixing bowl of basswood, three feet in diameter, is the gift of Mrs. C. C. Bovey of Minneapolis. She has also presented an old-fashioned rocking chair, a number of bedspreads, and some pieces of early china and glassware. From Miss Georjeannie Hamilton of Minneapolis the society has received a number of handsome shawls, a hand-woven blanket, several bedspreads, some pieces of Chelsea china, and a number of other items.

A guest ticket for the Democratic national convention held at Denver in 1908, issued by Fred Lynch at the request of Governor John A. Johnson, is the gift of Mr. Charles H. Evenson of Minneapolis.

Epaulets worn by Colonel Josiah Snelling when he was a captain in the United States Army have been added to the military collection by Miss Marion Snelling Hall of Cincinnati.

An oil-burning stereopticon lantern with slides has been presented by Mrs. Edith M. Whitman of St. Paul, through the courtesy of Mr. Ira C. Oehler.

A white lace and georgette parasol that belonged to Mrs. James J. Hill has been presented by Mrs. C. E. Lindley of New York. A child's dress of wool worn about 1850 has been received from Mr. Frank L. Braden of Minneapolis.

Oil portraits of Dr. and Mrs. William W. Folwell and of Russell H. Heywood of Buffalo, New York, are the gifts of Miss Mary H. Folwell of Minneapolis.

Genealogies received during the second quarter of 1942 include: John A. Barksdale, *Barksdale Family History and Genealogy* (Richmond, Virginia, 1940. 634 p.); Glenn C. Barnhart, *Genealogical History of the Families of Orrin Henry Barnhart and Carra Cobb Barnhart* (Oakland, California, 1931. 44 p.); Jacob W. Bittner, *History of the Bittner-Werley Families* (Kutztown, Pennsylvania, 1930. 239 p.); Mrs. Elma Butler Gordon, *Incomplete Roster of Nine Generations of the Butler Family* (Albany, Missouri, 1941. 23 p.); Maurice L. Carr, *The Story of John Karr* (Avon, Illinois, 1938. 32 p.); G. R. Carter, *Joseph Oliver Carter, The Founder of the Carter Family in Hawaii* (Hawaiian Historical So-

ciety, *Genealogical Series*, no. 1 — Honolulu, 1915. 16 p.); Paul L. Clugston, *Clugston Genealogy* (New York, 1932. 25 p.); Michael F. Costello, *The Cook Family of Rhode Island* (Pawtucket, Rhode Island, 1942. 8 p.); volume 1 of Elizur Yale Smith, *The Descendants of William Edwards* (New York, 1942. 50 p.); Eva Turner Clark, *Francis Epes* (New York, 1942. 309 p.); Myrtle M. Morris, *Joseph and Philena (Elton) Fellows* (Washington, 1941. 404 p.); Alfred L. Becker, *The Ancestors of Nicholas van Vranken Franchot (Except Those of the Franchot Name)* (New York, 1941. 47 p.); Byron K. Hunsberger, *A Portion of the Genealogical History of a Few Swiss Hunspergers* (Norristown, Pennsylvania, 1941. 828 p.); V. Gilmore Iden, *Sons and Daughters of Randall Iden* (Mount Vernon, Ohio, 1941. 99 p.); Pauline K. Skinner, *The Lt. Moses and Jemima Clement Kimball Family* (Wilmington, Delaware, 1941. 152 p.); Roscoe L. Whitman, *Kline and Young Families of the Mohawk Valley* (Westfield, New Jersey, 1941. 68 p.); Irma L. Moorman, *History of the Lathrop Family* (Swanton, Ohio, 1940. 32 p.); Emily L. Noyes, *Leavitt, Descendants of John, the Immigrant, through his Son, Moses* (Tilton, New Hampshire, 1941. 354 p.); Walter J. Coates, *The Lee Family of Hounsfield, New York* (North Montpelier, Vermont, 1941. 102 p.); Grace M. Marshall, *The Marshall Family Tree* (Rutherford, New Jersey, 1940. 18 p.); Baldwin Springer Maull, *John Maull (1714-1753) of Lewes, Delaware* (New York, 1941. 241 p.); Spencer Miller, *Joseph Miller of Newton, Massachusetts* (New York, 1942. 62 p.); Robert D. Mowry, *The Descendants of Augustus Mowry, 1784-1941* (Chicago, 1942. 94 p.); William B. Mowry, *A History of the Mowry Family of Pittsburgh* (Pittsburgh, 1941. 61 p.); George M. Pearson, *Benjamin and Esther (Furnas) Pearson* (Los Angeles, 1941. 538 p.); James Oscar Prude, *An Historical and Genealogical Record of the Prude and McAdory Families* (Tuscaloosa, Alabama, 1937. 328 p.); *Famille Alexis Reau* (Three Rivers, Quebec, 1923. 69 p.); Alfred Andrews Starbird, *Ancestors and Descendants of Winfield Scott Starbird and Emeline Hardy (Roberts) Starbird* (Burlington, Vermont, 1941. 61 p.); and *A Genealogy of the Wilder Family of Hawaii* (Hawaiian Historical Society, *Genealogical Series*, no. 2 — Honolulu, 1916. 7 p.).

Three recently received genealogies that include material on Minnesota residents are Evangeline L. Halleck, *Descendants of George Linn* (Ann Arbor, Michigan, 1941. 220 p.); Edmund J. Longyear, *The Descendants of Jacob Longyear of Ulster County, New York* (New

Haven, Connecticut, 1942. 622 p.); and Bonnelle William Rhamy, *The Remy Family in America, 1650-1942* (Fort Wayne, Indiana, 1942. 492 p.).

Volume 2 of the *American Genealogical Index* (Middletown, Connecticut, 1942) is now available in the society's library. In it surnames from Anthony to Barows are indexed. Other useful compilations acquired recently are *Montgomery County Soldier Dead* (Crawfordsville, Indiana, 1941. 23 p.), with a revision corrected to May, 1942; volume 26 of the *Lineage Book* of the Daughters of Founders and Patriots of America (West Somerville, Massachusetts, 1940. 429 p.); *A First Supplement to the 1922 Index of Ancestors and Roll of Members of the General Society of Colonial Wars* (Hartford, 1941. 2 vols.); and volume 2 of the *National Register* of the Sons of the American Revolution (New York, 1902. 428 p.). Genealogists also will be interested in an *Index to the Vermonter, 1914 through 1939* (Montpelier, Vermont, 1941. 108 p.).

Those working in the field of Canadian genealogy will find useful a recent compilation by Pierre-Georges Roy, *Inventaire des testaments, donations et inventaires du regime francais conservés aux archives judiciaires de Quebec* (Quebec, 1941. 3 vols.), and Antoine Roy's extensive "Bibliographie de généalogies et histoires de familles," which appears in the *Rapport* for 1940-41 of the archivist of the province of Quebec (p. 95-332). Other bibliographies received include *Genealogical Material and Local Histories in the St. Louis Public Library* (St. Louis, 1941. 219 p.) by Georgia Gambrill, and *An Index of the Source Records of Maryland* (Baltimore, 1940. 478 p.) by Eleanor P. Passano.

Ten states are represented in the local histories and source materials of value to genealogists added to the library during the second quarter. Publications about the New England states include four pamphlets by Grace M. Limeburner issued under the title *Vital Statistics of Surry, Bluehill, Brooksville, Sedgwick, Maine* (North Brooksville, 1942); Henrietta D. Wood, *Early Days of Norridgewock* (Skowhegan, Maine, 1941. 124 p.); *Vital Records of Ashfield, Massachusetts to the Year 1850* (Boston, 1942. 273 p.); Massachusetts Historical Records Survey, *History of the Town of Ashland* (Framingham, Massachusetts, 1942. 141 p.); Danvers Historical Society, *Collections*, vol. 30 (Danvers, Massachusetts, 1942. 96 p.); *The History of South Congregational Church, Springfield, Massachusetts, 1842-1942* (Springfield, 1942. 134 p.); Edward T. Fairbanks, *The Town of St. Johnsbury, Vermont* (St. Johnsbury, 1914. 592 p.); C. E. Harris,

*A Vermont Village* (Yarmouthport, Massachusetts, 1941. 105 p.); and Carrie K. Harvey, *History of Bristol, Vermont, 1762-1940* (115 p.). Other eastern states are represented by Annie Walker Burns, *Maryland Genealogies and Historical Recorder*, vols. 5-6 (Washington, 1942); Maryland Historical Society, *Archives of Maryland*, vol. 58 (Baltimore, 1941. 614 p.); Annie Walker Burns, *Kentucky Genealogies and Historical Recorder*, vol. 2 (Washington, 1942); James D. Magee, *Bordentown, 1682-1932* (Bordentown, New Jersey, 1932. 145 p.); William C. Mulford, *Historical Tales of Cumberland County, New Jersey* (Bridgton, New Jersey, 1941. 197 p.); Cornelia F. Bedell, *Now and Then and Long Ago in Rockland County, New York* (Suffern, New York, 1941. 368 p.); Raymond T. Sant, *Fair Haven Folks and Folklore* (Red Creek, New York, 1941. 145 p.); Ethelyn Weller, *North Collins Remembers* (Gowanda, New York, 1941. 42 p.); Harold D. Eberlein, *Historic Houses of the Hudson Valley* (New York, 1942. 208 p.); *The Biographical Encyclopedia of Pennsylvania* (Philadelphia, 1874. 672 p.); Harold D. Eberlein, *Philadelphia, 1670-1838* (Philadelphia, 1939. 580 p.); George MacReynolds, *Place Names in Bucks County, Pennsylvania* (Doylestown, 1942. 474 p.); *The Huguenot*, no. 10, 1939-41, issued by a Huguenot society of Virginia (171 p.); and Millard K. Bushong, *History of Jefferson County, West Virginia* (Charlestown, West Virginia, 1941. 438 p.). E. J.

## News and Comment

IF "AMERICAN INSTITUTIONS are worth fighting for abroad, they are certainly worth working for at home," writes Richard L. Beyer in an article on "The Historical Society in War Time" in the *Journal* of the Illinois State Historical Society for June. He believes that "the home front would be guilty of gross neglect if it refused to preserve in America those very institutions and ways that our boys have gone all the way to Australia, Burma, Iceland, the British Isles and other distant places to defend." Dr. Beyer reminds his readers that if we are fighting to defend our way of life and preserve our culture, it is important to maintain and strengthen our historical societies, for they not only take "high rank among the cultural institutions that have helped to make America what it is," but their activities "are concerned with . . . the past, the knowledge of which fosters national pride and contributes to better citizenship." The writer suggests that "instead of retreating in the present crisis, the historical society "might well multiply its activities" by sponsoring "exhibits, patriotic lectures, and radio broadcasts," publishing "literature that will influence all elements in this nation," collecting and preserving records of the present conflict, and sponsoring "programs devised to assist newcomers," especially enlisted men and workers in defense industries, "in adjusting themselves to their unfamiliar environment."

A similar theme was stressed by L. Hubbard Shattuck, director of the Chicago Historical Society, in a stimulating address on "Wartime Duties of Historical Museums" presented before a meeting of the American Association of Museums at Williamsburg, Virginia, on May 18. "To bring before our people in a vital and convincing manner the virtues as well as the failures of the past is the important task which confronts our historical museums today," said the speaker. That "it is our responsibility to educate donors as well as visitors" was only one of the concrete and useful suggestions made by Mr. Shattuck. Most museum visitors today, he said, "are not easily impressed by some objects just because they have been associated with pleasing but unimportant persons or events." He asserted that we must accept the changes wrought by the world crisis "in the spirit of true pioneers," and must "interpret our museums in the light of this changing world."

Since "libraries, archival institutions, and museums have important functions to fulfill in connection with a nation's war effort, both from an immediately practical standpoint and from the long-range point of view as aids in the maintenance of national morale," it is of utmost importance that "every effort should be made to keep holdings available," according to a booklet recently issued by the National Resources Planning Board. It bears the title *The Protection of Cultural Resources against the Hazards of War: A Preliminary Handbook*, and it was prepared by the Committee on Conservation of Cultural Resources (Washington, 1942. 46 p.). "The Role of Libraries, Museums, and Archival Agencies in Wartime" is the theme of the opening chapter. Others deal with the hazards to which cultural resources are exposed in wartime, the classification of materials and the selection of those calling for special protection, methods of protecting buildings in which cultural resources are housed, the protection of collections in such buildings, and the removal of collections when necessary, with suggestions as to the selection of depositories and methods of packing, transportation, and storage. In his introduction, Dr. Waldo G. Leland, chairman of the committee, announces that it "has initiated a survey of space suitable for the temporary deposit of cultural material removed from areas of danger," and that it "will be glad to give any assistance it can by way of information or advice toward the protection of cultural materials in the possession of any person or institution." The booklet, which contains many useful suggestions for both state and local historical leaders, may be purchased from the superintendent of documents at Washington for ten cents.

In an address on "History for the People" presented before the Pennsylvania Federation of Historical Societies at Harrisburg on April 10, 1941, and recently published as a pamphlet, C. C. Crittenden contends that "In planning a broad program of history for the people, we must realize that our greatest opportunity lies in the field of local history." He believes that "Nowhere is the current popular interest in history more real than in the local field," and that "for arousing and maintaining the interest of the masses of the people there is nothing like the history of one's immediate locality." He discusses some of the many things we can do in developing a program of history for the people, such as preserving physical remains, marking historic sites, conducting programs of archaeological work, establishing and maintaining museums, collecting and preserving written and printed sources, writing and publishing community histories,

and holding meetings and conferences. "Just as local self-government must be the foundation of the democratic state," Dr. Crittenden concludes, "so local historical interest and activity must be the chief means of support of a general, popular historical program."

"Archaeology enables us to visualize the Greeks and the Romans of classical times — to see them and their lives reflected in other than literary creations, in their pictorial and plastic art, their temples and houses, their furniture and jewels." Thus writes Professor M. Rostovtzeff in an article explaining "How Archaeology Aids History," which appears in the *Yale Review* for June. The writer draws his examples from the field of ancient history and the classical world with which he is familiar, but many of his remarks may well be applied to Midwest America, and more specifically to Minnesota, where such sites as Grand Portage and Fort Ridgely have been excavated by archaeologists in recent years. "Every turn of the spade on well-chosen sites will bring new facts to light that will open new vistas and pose new problems to the historian," suggests Professor Rostovtzeff. In the study of Minnesota as well as of Hellas, it is the historian's "duty to register these facts, to co-ordinate them, to grasp their meaning, and out of them to build the lofty and well-balanced edifice which we call history."

A brief article on "Jacques de Noyon: nouveaux détails sur sa carrière" by E.-Z. Massicotte, appearing in the *Bulletin des recherches historiques* for April, is of interest to students of Minnesota exploration, for it tells the facts — many of them newly discovered — of the career of the earliest known explorer in the Minnesota country. He made his first voyage into the interior in 1688, and a document written thirty years later shows that he got at least to the Lake of the Woods and probably to Lake Winnipeg. In 1690 De Noyon was engaged for a fur trading expedition, and three years later he was one of twelve voyageurs leaving for "the Ottawa" under the direction of Pierre le Sueur. Since the latter was in the Minnesota country shortly afterward, it is fairly certain that De Noyon was there also. The author has found references to De Noyon in court records, he notes the record of his marriage, and in at least one instance he finds evidence of the explorer's whereabouts in the record of the birth of one of his children. De Noyon left for Detroit in 1704, and for many years thereafter he probably was in the interior on trading and military expeditions.

G. L. N.

"Did Daniel Defoe base his immortal story 'Robinson Crusoe' on the true adventures of one of Canada's most famed explorers — Pierre Radisson?" This question is raised and discussed by R. T. Byers in the *Montreal Standard* for July 4, which presents an article entitled "Was Radisson Robinson Crusoe?" The writer points out a number of similarities between Radisson's narrative and Defoe's tale.

In an interesting article on "Voyageur Songs," which appears in the June number of the *Beaver*, Marius Barbeau points out the fact that "these vocal compositions were first of all working songs. Their function consisted in marking the motion of the many paddles in the water and sustaining the energy of the canoemen throughout their tiring journeys in the wilderness." The author quotes the remarks penned by some of the early chroniclers after hearing these songs, and he notes that they were impressed not only by the "length and usefulness of the songs," but by "their genuine musical quality." He groups the voyageur songs under several classifications and quotes both the music and the words of a few typical examples. In the same issue of the *Beaver* the process of making the "Birch Bark Canoe" is described by Lynus R. Pattee, who illustrates his text with a series of fourteen photographs.

A charming narrative of "Audubon's 'Journey up the Mississippi'" to the frontier river settlements of Missouri in 1810 has been provided with an introduction and annotations by John Francis McDermott and published in the *Journal* of the Illinois State Historical Society for June. Professor McDermott, who frequently contributes articles and reviews to *Minnesota History*, found this account of Audubon's first visit to the Mississippi in a rare annual for 1829 known as *The Winter's Wreath*. A description of a hunting trip with the Indians east of the river in Illinois and Tennessee is included in the narrative. Among other interesting contributions to this issue of the *Journal* are a discussion by Jay Monaghan of the question, "Did Abraham Lincoln Receive the Illinois German Vote?"; a history of the Northwestern Female College at Evanston by Dwight F. Clark, and a review of the "Unique Career of an Illinois Musician," Albert M. Bagby, by Lorene Martin.

The contributions of scientists, including physicians, to the exploration and opening of the frontier Northwest were discussed by Dean Theodore C. Blegen of the graduate school in the University of Minnesota before

a meeting of Sigma Xi at the Mayo Clinic, Rochester, on April 9. Dr. Blegen, who was formerly superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society, reviewed the exploits of such exploring scientists as David Thompson, Dr. John McLoughlin, and Joseph N. Nicollet.

The influence of N. P. Langford of St. Paul upon the "Governmental Exploration of the Upper Yellowstone, 1871," is brought out by W. Turrentine Jackson in the *Pacific Historical Review* for June. Langford is described as an "outstanding member and diarist" of the Washburn-Doane expedition of 1870. His lecture tour in the East in the early months of 1871 was, according to Mr. Jackson, part of a "vigorous promotional scheme" planned by members of the 1870 expedition, who "desired an official governmental exploration in 1871 to confirm their discoveries." The resulting expedition under Professor F. V. Hayden, a trained geologist, is the subject of the present article.

"The First Winter Trip through Yellowstone National Park" is described in the *Annals of Wyoming* for April by Jack Ellis Haynes, whose father, F. Jay Haynes of St. Paul, was the official photographer for the party that made the hazardous journey in January, 1887. Five of the thirty-five photographs made at that time are reproduced with Mr. Haynes's article.

"Captain Fisk's Expedition from Minnesota to Fort Benton and Bannack City in 1863" is the subject of an extended article in the *Rocky Mountain Husbandman* of Great Falls, Montana, for May 14. A detailed account of the journey from St. Cloud westward is presented, and meetings with Red River hunters, Indians, and gold hunters are noted. When the party reached Bannack City, it was greeted by two former Minnesotans, N. P. Langford and James Fergus.

A collection of *Legends of the Mighty Sioux* has been compiled by workers engaged in the South Dakota Writers' Project of the WPA and published in a volume intended for youthful readers (1941. 158 p.). The opening sections deal with the "Land of the Sioux" and with their social life and customs. The legends are grouped under several headings—"Traditional Lore," "Campfire Tales," "Legends of Places," and "Hunting and Battle Stories." Many of the stories here recorded were recited in the original Dakota tongue by reservation Indians.

Under the title "The Frontier and American Institutions," George Wilson Pierson presents "A Criticism of the Turner Theory" in the *New England Quarterly* for June. He poses the question, "How much of Frederick Jackson Turner's frontier hypothesis is reliable and useful today?," asserting that "this problem has begun to trouble economists, sociologists, geographers," and historians. Mr. Pierson believes that "frontier legends of one kind or another have now so permeated American thought as to threaten drastic consequences," and he contends that "in what it proposes, the frontier hypothesis needs painstaking revision."

A booklet entitled *Some Landmarks in the History of the Department of Agriculture*, by T. Swann Harding, has been issued by the United States department of agriculture as number 2 of its *Agricultural History Series* (1942. 94 p.). Several pages are devoted to the services as commissioner of agriculture from 1877 to 1880 of William G. Le Duc of St. Paul. The establishment in 1879 of a veterinary division "to carry out fully the work on animal diseases" is noted, and credit is given to Le Duc for emphasizing the importance of food and drug regulation by his department.

A biography of *John S. Wright, Prophet of the Prairies*, by Lloyd Lewis, has been published by the Prairie Farmer Publishing Company of Chicago to mark the centennial of the founding of the *Prairie Farmer* by Wright (1941. 215 p.). The files of this pioneer agricultural periodical reflect the history of western agriculture. Reproduced in the volume are many interesting illustrations that appeared originally in the periodical.

"Conflicting Trends in the Populist Movement" are analyzed and discussed by Harlan R. Crippen in the spring issue of *Science & Society*. The writer contends that "The populist movement has been interpreted and 'defined' in almost as many differing fashions as there have been historians," and that the "significance of the agrarian unrest of the last decades of the nineteenth century is still a matter of controversy." He divides Populism into "three categories, namely wheat-belt Populism, southern Populism and western Populism," giving his attention chiefly to the first of these categories, since he believes that "Populism developed most clearly, and advanced farthest, in the wheat-belt states of Kansas, Nebraska, North and South Dakota." Agrarian unrest died down in these areas after 1900, according to Mr. Crippen, who notes that "It rose again with the

organization in the Dakotas and Minnesota of the Non-Partisan League." In the latter state, he points out, the league "made little headway until it entered into an open political alliance with labor, forming the Farmer-Labor party."

"Food habits certainly should be as worthy of record as many other social, economic, or political aspects of our history," writes Richard Osborn Cummings in the preface to his recent book on *The American and His Food: A History of Food Habits in the United States* (Chicago, 1941). The author's discovery that a "systematic account of food habits during the past century was lacking" led him to prepare this volume, which could well serve as a guide for interesting and valuable local studies. The influence upon the food habits and physical welfare of Americans of the introduction of the middlings purifier in the Minneapolis mills of the early 1870's is discussed in a chapter entitled "An Indefinable Loss." "As white flour and white sugar rolled like a flood over the land, the nutritive value of the diet of millions changed," writes Mr. Cummings, for the "refining of sugar and flour . . . meant the subtraction of qualities which had formerly been present in customary food."

In the introduction to a recent volume entitled *The Story of Everyday Things* (New York, 1942. 428 p.), Arthur Train, Jr., defines his subject as "really the story of houses, furniture, food, clothes, transportation and communication," adding that "it is also, to a certain extent, the story of agriculture, handicraft, and industry, community life and the life of the intellect, and amusements." The arrangement of the volume is chronological, with a prologue dealing with Indian life, and sections on the seventeenth, eighteenth, and nineteenth centuries. Much of the narrative deals with the eastern seaboard, and there are only occasional references to the Middle West. In discussing libraries in community life, for example, Mr. Train notes that "Children were served along with adult readers until 1889 when the Minneapolis Public Library set aside a shelf with books for minors and three years later gave them a room of their own."

A new arrival among state historical magazines is the *Arkansas Historical Quarterly*, the first number of which was published in March. It opens with a review of historical work of the past in Arkansas and an appeal for the preservation of material relating to the history of the state — archives, personal papers, newspapers, and museum items. "Such material

should be preserved and made available to people engaged in research work," writes the editor. He suggests that "county historical societies could render invaluable service in locating such material," and that "items of more than local interest should be made available to a larger public by being deposited with the History Commission or some college or University library." Unfortunately, the Arkansas Historical Association, which publishes the *Quarterly*, does not have fireproof quarters in which to house such collections.

In an article on "Emerson in Michigan and the Northwest," which appears in the spring number of the *Michigan History Magazine*, Russel B. Nye gives some attention to Emerson's lecture tour in Minnesota in the winter of 1867. On this trip, which was "one of the longest tours of his career," Emerson "visited every one of what are now the middle western states," writes Mr. Nye. The Minnesota visit was discussed by Hubert H. Hoeltje in the issue of this magazine for June, 1930 (see *ante*, 11:145-159).

Articles on the development in Iowa of two modern methods of communication appear in the April number of the *Annals of Iowa*. In the first, Charles C. Deering surveys the history of "The Telephone in Iowa" from 1879, when an exchange was opened at Dubuque. Included are sections on early toll lines, early equipment used in the state, companies operating telephone lines, and rural service. A. G. Woolfries, the author of the second article, reviews the story of "A Radio Pioneer: WOI-Ames, 1923-1940." The leading article in this issue of the *Annals* is Ora Williams' history of the Iowa Department of History and Archives, which is marking its fiftieth anniversary this year.

A contribution to Middle Western political history is Allen Fraser Lovejoy's study of *La Follette and the Establishment of the Direct Primary in Wisconsin, 1890-1904*, which has been published by Yale University as volume 1 of the *Patterson Prize Essays* (New Haven, 1941). For this study, Mr. Lovejoy received a prize in American politics established at the university by the bequest of Frank Miner Patterson.

Nearly half of the Reverend Peter Leo Johnson's recent volume entitled *Stuffed Saddlebags: The Life of Martin Kundig, Priest, 1805-1879* (Milwaukee, 1942) has its setting in Wisconsin, where the missionary priest served after 1842. Early Jesuit and other Catholic missionary activity

in Wisconsin and the upper Mississippi Valley is the subject of one chapter, which includes a brief account of Bishop Loras' trips to the frontier settlements of Wisconsin and Minnesota.

"St. Nazianz, a German Settlement" in Manitowoc County, Wisconsin, is the subject of an article by John Eiselmeier in the *American-German Review* for June. The settlement, which "was developed on a communal basis," was established in 1854 by Father Ambrosius Oswald and more than a hundred German Catholic colonists. They made all implements "necessary for their existence," and some of these with quaint "furniture which appears to be indestructible" are now preserved in a local museum. In the same issue of the *Review* is an account of the "German Drama in the Middle West" by Horst Frenz, who gives special attention to theatrical performances in German playhouses at Cincinnati, Milwaukee, Chicago, St. Louis, and Davenport.

Students of Czech settlement in the Northwest will be interested in a booklet, compiled by the Reverend Paul J. Monarski, presenting the *Golden Jubilee History of St. John Nepomucene's Parish, Prairie du Chien, Wisconsin, 1891-1941* (54 p.). This Catholic parish was established in 1891 to serve former parishioners of St. Gabriel's Church who "could speak and understand only Bohemian."

The story of the construction of "The Prairie du Chien Pontoon Bridge," which connected the western terminal of a Wisconsin railroad line with North McGregor, Iowa, and gave access to the Minnesota settlements farther north, is reviewed by Alden E. Miller in number 58 of the *Bulletins* of the Railway and Locomotive Historical Society, issued in May. The writer gives credit for designing the bridge and supervising its construction to Michel Spettel, a German shipbuilder who had settled in Prairie du Chien. Patents on the design, however, were held by John Lawler, who financed the building of the bridge. The structure, which is described as the "largest and only one of its kind on the main channel" of the Mississippi, was completed in the spring of 1874 and is still in use. Some interesting pictures of the bridge accompany the article.

Antoine d'Eschambault is the author of two sketches of the voyageur appearing in the January and February issues of *Le Canada français*. In them Mr. d'Eschambault describes, as does Dr. Grace Lee Nute in her volume on the same subject, the life and customs of the voyageur, includ-

ing his role in the wars, exploration, and settlement of the Northwest. Some descendants of François Rolet, who is identified as the first Rolet in Canada, are traced by E.-F. Surveyer in an article on "La Famille Rolette," appearing in the June number of the *Bulletin des recherches historiques*. Among Rolet's grandsons the author lists Jean-Joseph Rolette, the well-known fur trader of the Northwest.

S. A. D.

Sister Ursula Dunlevy's monograph on the "Canadian Halfbreed Rebellions of 1870 and 1885" is concluded in the April number of the *North Dakota Historical Quarterly* (see *ante*, p. 186). Many Minnesota connections are brought out, and the St. Paul newspapers are used as an important source of information. A memorial addressed to Governor Ramsey in 1849 by Father Belcourt and a group of half-breeds from the Red River colony is reprinted as an appendix. Other articles in this issue of the *Quarterly* are a description of a "Dakota Indian Victory-dance" observed in 1918 near Fort Yates, North Dakota, by Aaron McGaffey Beede, and a "Study of Population Trends in North Dakota" by J. M. Gillette.

#### GENERAL MINNESOTA ITEMS

The faculty of the University of Minnesota is well represented among the authors contributing to volumes 21 and 22 of *Minnesota History*, and their contributions are in turn listed in a bibliography of *Publications of the Faculties* for 1940-41 issued as volume 45, number 10, of the university's *Bulletins* (1942. 209 p.). It therefore seems appropriate to quote herein some passages from the foreword to the latter publication. It was written by President Coffey, who gained the impression from his examination of this bibliography that we are now at war and "are fighting in order that a way of life may survive that will permit the continued free and untrammled study of just the kind of problems that these books and articles represent. No one has told a single author represented here what he must write or think," he continues; "no one has told a single author included between these covers that his ideas are politically unacceptable." Thus, for the president of our state university, the publications in this list "symbolize the freedom of thought that characterizes the democratic way of life." He expresses the belief that "This volume should engender in all of us a better understanding of what we are struggling for, and a deeper appreciation of the fact that the struggle is worth all the sacrifices it may impose."

A valuable compilation recently published by the Minnesota Historical Records Survey is a *Directory of Churches and Religious Organizations in Minnesota* (1942. 583 p.). The arrangement is by denominations, and under each heading the communities in which churches are maintained are listed alphabetically. Names of congregations and clergymen, information about the incorporation of the church, items on parochial schools and other church institutions, and many other useful bits of information are included. Indexes of names of persons and of names of organizations add to the value of the volume. Another notable publication prepared and issued under the auspices of the survey is a *Guide to Church Vital Statistics Records in Minnesota: Baptisms, Marriages, Funerals* (1942. 253 p.). The arrangement in this volume is by counties and communities. A volume listing the archives of Aitkin County that are preserved in the courthouse at Aitkin has been issued in the survey's *Inventory of the County Archives of Minnesota* (no. 1 — 172 p.). A historical sketch of the county, twenty-two pages in length, precedes the inventory.

The April issue of the *Minnesota Archaeologist* is devoted to a series of illustrated articles by Burton W. Thayer on Indian beadwork and design. Among the subjects considered are "‘Black’ as a Preferred Color in Ojibway Art," "Some Examples of Red River Half-breed Art," and "The Algonquian Trait of Asymmetry in Ojibway Art." The assertion is made that "Minnesota is an interesting crossroad of Indian beaded art," since several groups lived and worked in the area. The state is therefore described as a "particularly fertile field for research in beadwork ornamentation."

A letter written from Fort Snelling on November 30, 1835, by S. C. Stambaugh after a hazardous journey on foot from Prairie du Chien is published in the *Chatfield News* for June 4. The writer, who notes that he has made arrangements with the "sutler to take possession the first of January," describes in detail the difficulties encountered during a trip of sixteen days northward to the Minnesota post. Stambaugh's letter has been preserved in the form of a copy made by his wife, to whom it was addressed. She sent it to her sister, in order to give the latter "some idea of going to St. Peter's (or Iceland I think would be more appropriate) in November." Accompanying the letter is a note from Mrs. Stambaugh, who remained in Prairie du Chien. "I stay with Mr. Rolette and daughter, a rich old French trader," she relates. "They are very kind and attentive to

me, and I spend my time pleasantly." Mrs. Stambaugh notes that a "splendid horse and sleigh" with a driver had been placed at her disposal.

A brilliant characterization of George Edgar Vincent, who served as president of the University of Minnesota from 1913 to 1917, is contributed by Professor L. L. Bernard of the University of Washington to the April number of *Social Science*. The author did graduate work in sociology at Chicago under Dr. Vincent's direction, and he joined the Minnesota faculty just after Vincent left to take up new duties as president of the Rockefeller Foundation. At the time the "memory of a great presidency still persisted at Minnesota among the more enlightened members of the faculty," writes Dr. Bernard. He explains the reasons why Dr. Vincent failed in his attempt to carry out some of his educational ideas at Minnesota, but notes that the "regents liked Vincent's plans to expand the services of the University in the direction of extension activities." As a result, under Dr. Vincent's administration, Minnesota became "one of the leading extension states, perhaps the leading one."

A record of the commemorative exercises conducted to mark the *Twenty-fifth Anniversary of the Mayo Foundation for Medical Education and Research* in the Mayo Civic Auditorium at Rochester on October 23, 1940, has been issued in the form of a booklet (1941. 34 p.). Among the addresses and other documents here brought together and preserved in published form are a review of the accomplishments of the foundation from 1915 to 1940 by its director, Dr. Donald C. Balfour; an account of its growth by Dr. Lester D. Powell, president of the Alumni Association of the Mayo Foundation; a discussion of "The Pioneer Tradition" as it is exemplified in the work of the Mayos at Rochester by Dean Theodore C. Blegen of the University of Minnesota graduate school; a tribute to four leaders in the establishment of the foundation by Dr. Guy Stanton Ford, president of the university; and a letter from Dr. George E. Vincent, who was president of the university in 1915 when the foundation was established.

Dr. Arthur S. Hamilton continues, in the issues of *Minnesota Medicine* for April, May, and June, his "History of the Minnesota State Medical Society," which forms part of a "History of Medicine in Minnesota" (see *ante*, p. 190). These installments consist merely of brief reports of meetings, semiannual and annual, held by the medical organization from 1871 to 1890.

Historical accounts of many Norwegian settlements in Minnesota and sketches of scores of Minnesota residents who emigrated from the Nordfjord district of Norway are included in a volume entitled *Nordfjordingenes historie i Amerika*, by the Reverend L. M. Gimmetstad and others (Minneapolis, 1940. 508 p.). Included are chapters on the Faribault County settlements of Bricelyn, Frost, and Kiester Township; on Belview, Clarkfield, Stony Run, and Granite Falls, in Redwood and Yellow Medicine counties; on Swift Falls and Benson in Swift County; on the Big Stone County settlements; and on some widely distributed groups, including those in St. Paul and Minneapolis.

Three useful *Bulletins* recently issued by the Minneapolis board of education in its series of *Social Studies* deal with *Bridges of Minneapolis and the State of Minnesota* (no. 56—30 p.), *Notable Buildings of Minneapolis* (no. 57—74 p.), and the *Story of the Minnesota State Fair* (no. 58—40 p.). All were prepared with WPA assistance, and all have been issued in multigraphed pamphlet form. They aim to place at the disposal of teachers and pupils in the high schools and teachers in the grades material not readily available elsewhere. In addition to brief accounts of individual bridges in Minneapolis, St. Paul, and Duluth, the first of these pamphlets presents notes on bridges at Zumbrota, Hudson, Hastings, Winona, Henderson, Stillwater, Wabasha, La Crosse, and Osceola. Among the *Notable Buildings* described in the second booklet are such early structures on the site of Minneapolis as the government mill at the Falls of St. Anthony, the Pond cabin on Lake Calhoun, the Godfrey and Stevens houses, and the Round Tower at Fort Snelling outside the city limits. There are brief historical sketches also of some of the city's "famous houses," churches, hotels, schools, university buildings, libraries, art galleries, public buildings, business and industrial structures, theaters, auditoriums, and clubs.

A bicycle with wooden wheels, "flat steel tires," and pedals that resembled "large wooden spools," which was used in Madelia about 1885 by a local blacksmith, is the earliest machine described by George Wilson in a series of articles on bicycling appearing in the *Mankato Free Press* from April 22 to 29. By the end of the century, Mr. Wilson recalls, bicycles with rubber tires were in use in Madelia. In succeeding installments he tells of improvements in the machine, of bicycle races, of trips from town to town, and of the relation of the bicycle to the good roads movement

in Minnesota. Material on the area about the Twin Cities is included with many interesting items relating to Madelia and Mankato.

In the second of a series of articles in the *Conservation Volunteer* dealing with Minnesota's "Memorial Parks and Waysides," Harold W. Lathrop describes some that "commemorate the 1862 Indian uprising" (see *ante*, p. 192). Included in the May issue are brief explanations of the significance of Traverse des Sioux and Camp Release state memorial waysides, of Monson Lake State Memorial Park, and of the Wood Lake and Sam Brown state monuments. Monuments erected to commemorate the battle of Birch Cooley and the Old Crossing treaty with the Chippewa and the Joseph R. Brown State Memorial Wayside are described by Mr. Lathrop in the June number of the *Volunteer*.

### WAR HISTORY ACTIVITIES

The Minnesota War History Committee, established by Governor Stassen on May 18 as one of the agencies of the Minnesota Office of Civilian Defense (see *ante*, p. 148-153), held its first meeting on May 25, when a comprehensive general plan for its work was presented and approved. The plan calls for the collection of all types of war records having research value for Minnesota, including photographs, motion pictures, radio transcriptions, microfilms, processed material, and the like, as well as printed and written documents. The records of the war activities of individual Minnesotans and of all organizations having local units, an appreciable number of members, or a following in Minnesota are to be collected.

The War History Committee is not attempting to collect immediately certain classes of war records. One of the fundamental records of the war, a roster of Minnesota men in the armed services, it believes, can best be compiled through collaboration with the Minnesota adjutant general and the war and navy departments in Washington. The correspondence and other office records of public and private agencies are not available for collection until their usefulness to such agencies is past. The committee, however, is stimulating the preservation by agencies of all materials resulting from their war activities, whether they are office records or items issued to the public, such as speeches, news releases, manuals, certificates, badges, posters, or the like. If public war agencies preserve all their records in their own files, the committee's objective with respect to their records will have

been achieved. The office files of some private organizations may never become available for collection by the committee; consequently, it is asking such organizations to send in currently all possible material. Thus the War History Committee is attempting to assure the preservation of office records, to collect from private organizations all kinds of ephemeral material, and to collect the records of individuals. The committee will avoid as far as possible the duplication of material collected by other depositories in the Twin Cities. It will not collect, for example, Minnesota newspapers and periodicals and federal publications received by the Minnesota Historical Society, or books, pamphlets, and other printed materials to be found in public, college, and university libraries of Minneapolis and St. Paul.

The appointment of local war history chairmen in forty-six of the hundred and six Minnesota counties and communities that have local defense councils has been announced by the chairmen of the latter organizations. Contact between the state War History Committee and the local chairmen is being maintained through instructions and suggestions published in the *Minnesota Defense Council Bulletin*. Through the co-operation of the local chairmen and their committees, the state committee expects to build up collections of local war records in communities throughout the state and to obtain for itself a mass of valuable war records of local Minnesota origin.

Lists of organizations and individuals from whom material is desired have been compiled in the office of the War History Committee. Gifts from 107 donors, nearly all of whom will continue to send the committee material, were received before August 1. Among the donors are the American Jewish Committee, the American Legion, the American Legion Auxiliary, the Council for Democracy, the Friends of Democracy, the Minnesota Federation of Womens Clubs, the Minnesota Anti-defamation Council, the Minnesota Mutual Life Insurance Company, the League of Women Voters, the Russian War Relief, the *St. Paul Pioneer Press*, the *St. Paul Dispatch*, the Union for Democratic Action, the United American Slavs of Minnesota, and the Veterans of Foreign Wars.

Through the co-operation of the Labor Volunteers for Victory, thirteen international unions with locals in Minnesota are sending the War History Committee their publications. Nine newspapers published by the army at places where Minnesota men are stationed are coming

to the committee. Minnesotans in Alaska are sending the *Kodiak Bear* and other material. The Military Railway Service, commanded by Brigadier General Carl R. Gray, Jr., with headquarters in St. Paul, is contributing various items. Numerous letters from Minnesota soldiers have been received. A representative collection of antiwar and defeatist literature is being accumulated.

### LOCAL HISTORICAL SOCIETIES

During the past two years the Carver County Historical Society has built up the impressive collection of pioneer objects now on display in its museum at Mayer. In two large rooms on the second floor of the Mayer school, the museum was formally opened to the public on April 12, 1940. Mr. O. D. Sell, the president of the society, whose energy and enthusiasm has resulted in the building up of the society's collection, is on hand every Wednesday and Friday afternoon to receive visitors and explain the exhibits.

Mr. Sell's success in assembling specific types of materials and his ability to organize these materials for purposes of display are exemplified in some extensive special collections on view in the Carver County museum. Outstanding among these is a collection of firearms, consisting of no less than 225 guns. Among them are many handmade pieces, chiefly of European origin. Exquisite wood carvings and finely wrought metal work decorate many of these items, making them worthy of careful and detailed examination. Included are numerous guns of primitive types, and the collection as a whole illustrates the development of small firearms over a period of more than a century. The guns are arranged on specially constructed racks, and each is carefully numbered and labelled. Supplementing the exhibit, and adjacent to it, are displays of hunting and military accessories — powder bags, powder horns, holsters, saddle bags, and many similar items.

A number of other special collections might be mentioned. There is, for example, an archaeological exhibit, consisting chiefly of Indian implements of stone, arrowheads, and other objects of Indian origin found in the county. An exhibit of smokers' equipment consists not only of pipes, many of which are of unusual design, but of tobacco pouches, flints used for lighting tobacco, and the like. There is a special display of razors and shaving equipment. An exhibit of frontier lighting devices includes candle molds, candle snuffers, whale oil lamps, lanterns of various types,

and the like. As is to be expected in an agricultural community, a large proportion of the objects displayed are of an agricultural nature. Scores of agricultural implements, many of them handmade, are included. The equipment used in making maple sugar and a straw beehive dating from the 1850's are reminders of some activities of frontier farmers. Among the larger pieces on display are a fire engine used at Norwood in 1879, the switchboard used in 1903 to inaugurate telephone service in Carver County, and a sewing machine dating from 1868.

Painted chests of Scandinavian origin, wooden shoes and pewter mugs used at Cologne by Dutch settlers, and clocks and musical instruments from the homes of German pioneers suggest the racial composition of the county's population. The museum collection as a whole provides convincing evidence that the Germans are the dominant European group of the vicinity, for a large proportion of the items of foreign origin were brought in by German immigrants. Evidences of their cultural interests and activities are particularly numerous. Most of the musical instruments in the Carver County society's large and varied collection, for example, once belonged to German settlers. Of outstanding interest and value in this connection is the collection of the Carver County German Reading Society or *Leseverein*. A scarlet and gold banner that hung in the association's headquarters at Carver reveals that it was organized in 1858 and incorporated in 1865. It continued to function as a local library association until 1941, when its library and records were turned over to the county historical society. The library consists of more than a thousand volumes, many of them in German, though a large number of recent acquisitions are in English. A study of the titles would reveal much about the reading tastes and literary interests of residents in a typical German community of the Middle West. With the books were received the reading society's manuscript records, including lists of members, minutes of meetings, records of the payment of dues and of books withdrawn and returned, and financial accounts. Here is the raw material on which can be based a cultural study of unusual interest and value.

More than three thousand objects have been acquired by the Carver County society since it opened its museum in the spring of 1940. They are listed in accessions books and are well identified by typewritten labels. Each label gives information about the nature of the object, the date of its origin, the time that it was brought into the county, its former owner,

and the donor. Several hundred pictures are filed alphabetically in a special case. Pictures on display are changed from time to time.

In the brief period of its existence the museum at Mayer has received nearly thirty-five hundred visitors. Groups of school children accompanied by teachers frequently view the exhibits; thus the museum has become an important educational factor in the county. Co-operation has been given to an unusual degree by newspapers at Chaska, Norwood, Waconia, Watertown, and Young America, which frequently publish articles about the museum and the activities of the historical society. B. L. H.

Plans for the erection of markers and the expansion of its museum after the war were discussed at a meeting of the Thunder Bay Historical Society at Port Arthur on April 8. Mr. Carson F. Piper, who has charge of the society's museum, announced that since its opening in January it has received more than a thousand visitors. A bequest left by the society's first president, the late Peter McKellar, made possible the successful establishment of the museum, Mr. Piper revealed. He urged that collecting activities should continue during the war in order that at its close the museum might be ready for expansion. The society's president, Mr. J. P. Bertrand, listed and described the historical significance of four sites that should be marked when normal conditions prevail once more.

More than two hundred people attended the annual dinner meeting of the Brown County Historical Society, which was held at New Ulm on May 7. The program, which consisted of papers on various aspects of the Sioux Outbreak of 1862, commemorated the eightieth anniversary of that tragic event in the history of the Minnesota Valley. Five papers and addresses presented on this occasion later were published in the *New Ulm Daily Journal*. They are an account of the murder of the Humphrey family and of the escape of the twelve-year-old boy, John A. Humphrey, by Judge Russell L. Johnson, appearing in the issue for May 8; a review of the "Outbreak at the Lower Agency," by Victor P. Reim, May 9; a description of the battles of New Ulm, by Dr. Carl Fritsche, May 11; accounts of Indian raids in sections near New Ulm in the month following the outbreak, by George Hage, president of the Watonwan County Historical Society, May 12; and a summary of a report prepared for the government after the outbreak by Major Thomas Galbraith, in which he discussed its causes, by Fred W. Johnson, president of the Brown County society, May

13. At the business session of the meeting, Mr. Johnson was again named president. Other officers include A. G. Loomis, vice-president, Louis G. Vogel, secretary, and William Brust, treasurer.

Motion pictures of the Lac qui Parle area and of some of Minnesota's state parks were presented by Mr. Harold Lathrop of the Minnesota division of state parks to illustrate a talk before the Chippewa County Historical Society at Watson on June 12. The speaker gave special attention to the state park at Lac qui Parle and to the reconstruction of the chapel used in connection with the mission there. The work on the chapel has now been completed and plans for its dedication on July 12 were announced.

The historical societies of Douglas and Todd counties held a joint meeting and picnic at Osakis on June 14. A feature of the program was a pageant reviewing the history of the counties, written especially for the occasion by O. B. DeLaurier.

An entire page of the Red Wing *Daily Republican Eagle* for April 2 is devoted to pictures, with explanatory notes, of the museum of the Goodhue County Historical Society in the courthouse at Red Wing. They record the visit to the museum of members of the teacher-training class in the Red Wing public schools. Both general views and specific exhibits are depicted in the photographs.

The bequest by the late Dr. F. W. Powers of Barrett of his collection of firearms and military equipment to the Grant County Historical Society is announced by the society's secretary, Mr. W. H. Goetzinger, in the *Grant County Herald* of Elbow Lake for April 30. A cabinet in which the collection can be displayed and kept intact has been presented by Dr. Powers' widow. With other exhibits arranged by the Grant County society, the Powers collection is now on display in the rotunda of the courthouse at Elbow Lake.

Professor A. L. Burt of the department of history in the University of Minnesota was the speaker at the annual meeting of the Hennepin County Historical Society, which was held at the Coffman Memorial Union on the university campus on April 14. He took as his subject "The Center of Patriotism Today." On May 17 the society dedicated a monument at Layman's Cemetery in Minneapolis commemorating the services of Charles W. Christmas, pioneer Hennepin County surveyor. Brooklyn Center was

the scene of the society's annual outing on June 6. About a hundred people made the trip, which included stops at the Minneapolis water-softening plant at Fridley and the Half-way House near Robbinsdale. Mrs. Herbert Ward received the visitors, telling them that the house was built by Jesse Ward in the 1850's and that it was well-known to travelers on the stage line between St. Anthony and Monticello, for there stagecoach drivers stopped to change horses. At Brooklyn Center the tourists visited the farm of Mr. Earle Brown, where they were given an opportunity to view his extensive collection of horse-drawn vehicles and a reconstructed logging camp. The tour ended at the Brooklyn Center Methodist Church, where dinner was served and a program of papers and talks centering about the history of the community was presented.

The annual meeting of the Kandiyohi County Historical Society was held at Willmar on June 16. Among the speakers was Mr. Victor E. Lawson, who explained the work of the organization, and Mr. Roy Hendrickson, who made an appeal for the preservation of the county's war records.

The Kittson County Historical Society held its annual meeting at Hallock on June 19. An illustrated talk on Minnesota history was presented by Mr. Paul O. Hanson, president of the society.

"The Historical Society and the Community" was the subject of an address presented by Dr. Arthur J. Larsen, superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society, before a meeting of the Lake Pepin Valley Historical Society at Lake City on April 27. Following the meeting, the society's museum in the public library building was opened for inspection. The museum is open to the public regularly on Tuesday and Friday evenings.

The Czech backgrounds of the village of Silver Lake were featured in a program presented before a meeting of the McLeod County Historical Society at that place on April 20. Descendants of a number of Czech pioneers recalled the experiences of members of their families who helped to found the community. Among them was Miss Esther Jerabek of the library staff of the Minnesota Historical Society, who reviewed the early history of the village. The role of the local historical society in time of war was discussed by Dr. Arthur J. Larsen, superintendent of the state society. A local chapter of the McLeod County society was organized;

Mrs. Henry Hawlish was named president, and Mr. James Zavoral, secretary-treasurer. More than eighty people attended the meeting. Brown-ton was the scene of another well-attended meeting of the McLeod County society on June 23. Reminiscent talks and papers were presented by Mrs. Sophia Pollard of Morgan, Mrs. Nora Dwinnell of Brown-ton, and others.

The secretary of the McLeod County society, Mrs. Sophie P. White, who presents a column under the heading "Pioneer Pictures" in the *Hutchinson Leader*, quotes from an interesting letter of Abby Hutchinson in the issue for May 8. It was written on July 14, 1867, shortly after this youthful member of the musical Hutchinson family arrived in the Minnesota community that her relatives founded. She comments upon family possessions that had been shipped from the East, including an organ purchased in Boston, and notes that "Our old carriage we expect soon, coming by the lakes." She made haste to enter into the social life of the frontier village. "Tomorrow afternoon we have a croquet party in honor of a Mr. Durand and a Mr. Bonniwell from Milwaukee who are rusticating here," she writes. "Expect to have some horseback rides before they leave."

A picture of Fort Ripley in 1878 and a review of its history by Val E. Kasperek of the Morrison County Historical Society appear in the *Little Falls Herald* for April 24. The local historical society is given credit also for an article, appearing in the *Little Falls Daily Transcript* for May 16, about Lieutenant Zebulon M. Pike's trip up the Mississippi in 1805 to a winter post near Little Falls.

The summer meeting and picnic of the Otter Tail County Historical Society, which was held at Prairie Lake, near Pelican Rapids, on June 28, "drew one of the largest crowds in the history of the society," according to the *Fergus Falls Daily Journal* for June 29. Among the papers presented were a review of the early history of Pelican Rapids and Scrambler by John R. Quamme, and a series of reminiscences by a pioneer Otter Tail County teacher, Mrs. R. R. Bogstad. These papers are published in full in the *Journal*. Another item of more than usual interest on the program was the reading by Mr. Hilding Larson of Pelican Rapids of several brief township histories written by students in the seventh and eighth grades of rural schools in Otter Tail County. Reports of the meeting and other items about the society and its activities that appeared in the *Journal* for

June 29 and 30 have been reprinted in a four-page news sheet for members of the society.

About two hundred people attended the annual meeting of the Pipestone County Old Settlers Historical Society at Pipestone on June 13. The principal speaker, Senator J. V. Weber of Slayton, discussed the place of the society in the life of the county. All officers of the organization, including H. A. Petschow, president, were re-elected.

The curator of the state historical society's museum, Mr. Willoughby M. Babcock, was the speaker at a meeting of the Polk County Historical Society at Crookston on May 27. He took as his subject "Community Memory," emphasizing the role of the local historical society in preserving the records of the past.

A program planned to commemorate the seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of Carleton College was presented before a meeting of the Rice County Historical Society at Northfield on May 12. Among the speakers were Mr. Carl L. Weicht, president of the society, Dr. Donald J. Cowling, president of Carleton, and Miss Isabella Watson. The latter drew upon her experiences as a student at Carleton in the 1880's and as a member of its faculty for thirty-nine years for her interesting reminiscent talk. About sixty people attended the meeting.

The log cabin museum of the Waseca County Historical Society was open to the public on Saturday afternoons during the summer months. Members of the society volunteered to be in attendance at times when the museum was open.

Papers on "The St. Croix Valley in Days of Yore" by Willoughby M. Babcock, curator of the museum of the Minnesota Historical Society, and on the early history and settlement of Bayport by Mrs. Grace McAlpine, superintendent of schools in Washington County, were read before a joint meeting of the Washington County Historical Society and the Bayport Improvement Club at Bayport on April 29. Mrs. McAlpine's paper, which drew attention to the centennial of the beginning of settlement on the site of Bayport, appears in full in the *Bayport Herald* for May 7. Miss Helen Clapesattle of the University of Minnesota Press was the speaker at a meeting of the Washington County society held on the grounds of its museum in Stillwater on June 18. About a hundred and fifty people heard

her address on the "Horse-and-Buggy Doctor" and inspected the museum, which was reopened for the summer season. An informal tea followed the meeting.

### LOCAL HISTORY ITEMS

The finding at Graceville of the register for 1881 and 1882 of an early Browns Valley hotel, the Traverse House, is the occasion for an article about the volume in the *Graceville Enterprise* for May 26. The names of many western Minnesota pioneers as well as of numerous visitors to the region appear in the manuscript volume.

The history of the Brown County Farm Bureau, which was organized in 1918, is outlined in the *New Ulm Daily Journal* for May 5. Its organization is described, and a chronologically arranged list of its activities during twenty-four years is presented.

Under the auspices of the Carlton County Old Settlers Association, an interesting mill, built in Thomson Township in 1878, has been removed piece by piece and reassembled in Jay Cooke State Park, according to an article in the *Carlton County Vidette* of Carlton for April 23. The story of the mill, which was built by a group of Finnish pioneers for the grinding of rye meal, is reviewed in this issue by J. A. Mattinen. He obtained information about it some years ago by interviewing Isaac Raattaamaa, one of the original builders. Included in the account is a list of the nineteen Finnish pioneers who built the mill in order that their families might enjoy the rye bread and rye porridge to which they had been accustomed in their native land. A series of pictures of the razing of the mill accompanies the article. Another account of the mill and its removal appears in the *Barnum Herald* for April 9.

The "Story of Albert Lea's First Newspaper, Published 85 Years Ago" is reviewed in some detail by Lester W. Spicer in the *Evening Tribune* of Albert Lea for May 23. The author describes the founding of the *Southern Minnesota Star*, gives some biographical information about Alfred P. Swineford, the frontier journalist who established it, and analyzes the contents of the first issue, dated July 9, 1857. He notes that a copy is preserved by the Minnesota Historical Society. Thirty-eight numbers of the *Star* were issued before it ceased publication in May, 1858. In the following September Swineford launched a second paper, the *Freeborn County*

*Eagle*, which continued to appear until February, 1859. How these frontier news sheets reflect the early history of Albert Lea and Freeborn County is demonstrated in Mr. Spicer's narrative. A "Chapter of the Early History of the Albert Lea Co-operative Creamery" is the subject of a reminiscent article by H. E. Schuknecht, who was connected with the plant in the 1890's, in the *Evening Tribune* for June 4.

The constitution, by-laws, and minutes of the Cannon Falls Lyceum, which was active in the Goodhue County community from 1857 to 1860, are contained in a manuscript volume recently discovered by Mr. Richard Nelson in a shed, according to an announcement in the *Cannon Falls Beacon* for May 22. Lists of members, programs of meetings, and subjects of debate before the lyceum's sessions are to be found in this interesting record of frontier cultural activity.

The issue of the *Little Falls Daily Transcript* for April 4 is a fiftieth anniversary edition, two sections of which are devoted to articles about local history. Included are accounts of schools and churches in the community; of such institutions as the local library, which, like the newspaper, was founded in 1892; and of banks and business concerns. One article reviews in some detail the story of the Pine Tree Lumber Company, which was organized by a group of prominent lumbermen in the early 1890's. The story of Lindbergh State Park is outlined in another article.

With a three-day program of commencement exercises from June 5 to 7, Gustavus Adolphus College at St. Peter marked its eightieth anniversary. Features of the celebration were a historical pageant, a baccalaureate service conducted by Dr. O. J. Johnson, retiring president of the college, and a commencement address by President Walter C. Coffey of the University of Minnesota. A number of articles about the history of the college appear in the *St. Peter Herald* for June 5, and a volume by Professor Conrad Peterson of the school's department of history, in which he reviews *A History of Eighty Years*, was published in commemoration of the anniversary. This permanent record of one of Minnesota's pioneer institutions of higher learning will be reviewed in a future issue of this magazine.

Episodes in the history of Rochester, stories of pioneer life in its vicinity, sketches of its distinguished citizens, accounts of its business firms and institutions, and the like have been selected from various sources and assembled by Flora McGhee in a little book entitled *Know Rochester Better*

(St. Paul, 1940. 112 p.). Some of the sections have been reprinted from local newspapers, some are drawn from reminiscent narratives, and others are based upon interviews with pioneers recorded by students in the Rochester Junior College, where Miss McGhee is a member of the faculty. Among the more interesting chapters are those dealing with music in Rochester, entertainment and social life, and horse racing. A number of excellent illustrations are included.

A "History of Methodism at Little Prairie" in Rice County, prepared by Mrs. H. A. Illsley in connection with a home-coming celebration held on April 12, is published in the *Northfield Independent* for May 7. Credit is given to Jacob Emery, a pioneer settler of 1855, for promoting the establishment of the Methodist community at Little Prairie. When the Reverend William McKinley began to conduct regular services in Northfield in 1856, writes Mrs. Illsley, "Emery hauled all the folks from Little Prairie and Dundas that his ox team could handle" to hear McKinley preach.

Pioneer reunions and celebrations held in St. Louis County rural communities in 1940 and 1941 resulted in the publication of some significant multigraphed booklets containing sketches of local historical interest. They make available information about communities which were settled chiefly in the present century. Historical sketches of Brookston, Culver, Brevator, Grand Lake, and Stoney Brook appear in a booklet entitled *Brookston Region Pioneers* (August, 1940. 27 p.). In the same month were issued pamphlets on the *Elmer Pioneer Reunion* (9 p.), containing an account of the settlement of Elmer Township, and of the *Shaw Pioneer Reunion* (9 p.), with brief reviews of the history of that community and of its school. Historical sketches of Alborn and New Independence townships, which were settled in the later decades of the nineteenth century, and some notes on Industrial Township appear in a pamphlet entitled *Alborn Region Pioneers* (15 p.). Brief accounts of pioneer experiences at Linden Grove and of "pioneer school days" in the same township are presented in a booklet issued for that community in August, 1941 (20 p.).

To commemorate the eighty-fifth anniversary of the organization of Waseca County, the *Waseca Journal* of June 24 devotes three sections to articles about the history of the county. Most of these are part of a chronological series, each of which deals with one year in the county's history, from its establishment in 1857 to 1942. Articles on the years previous to

1905 are based on James E. Child's history of the county; material for the accounts of more recent years has been gleaned from newspaper files. The series begins with a review of settlement in the Waseca County area from 1854 to 1856. Following the chronological series are articles dealing with such subjects as schools, fire departments, industries, churches, lodges and other organizations, and mail service.



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