REVIEWS OF BOOKS

*Everyman His Own Historian: Essays on History and Politics.* By **Carl L. Becker.** (New York, F. S. Crofts & Co., 1935. 325 p. $2.50.)

In reviewing a volume that presents so many facets of Professor Becker’s mind one who has known him since they were fellow students under “old Freddie Turner” is tempted to do a characterization of Becker such as he has given us of that great teacher. No one could achieve such a speaking likeness of him as he gives of Turner. It is not even necessary to attempt it, for the total impression of all these essays limns a better portrait than I could paint.

A reviewer who numbers among his sins the editorship of the first volume of essays by former pupils to their professor on the occasion of his presidency of the American Historical Association must commend the good sense and restraint of Becker’s students in choosing to make possible a volume of the scattered essays of their master, now an ex-president of the association. It is a real service to have done this and the result is a volume that will delight a circle much larger than the historical guild.

Many of these essays I, like others, have read and could locate with some effort in diverse media of publication. Some I had not seen and would have missed. An expression of gratitude to the unnamed instigators of the collection is the chief burden of my comment on the volume. Only one essay, that on the Marxian philosophy of history, had not been printed before. For the appearance of two, the reviewer would enter a minor claim for credit. The opening essay on Kansas appeared in the volume of essays dedicated to Professor Turner. It certainly did much to put that volume on the out-of-print and rare list. When the volume on *Great Teachers of Social Science* was planned, Becker was the writer’s nominee to do the essay on Turner. Is it any wonder that I reread these with a greater pleasure than I do any of the others? I should rank next “The Spirit of ’76,” and the essays on Henry Adams and on the Marxian philosophy. The presidential address to the American Historical Association in Minneapolis, which gives the title to the volume, is perhaps the one on which Becker labored longest.
There are in all twenty papers printed in the volume. They are grouped under three main heads: "Liberty and Equality," "History and Historians," and "Interpretations." A number in all three cadres were written as book reviews or rather critiques and appreciations, for they are more than anything we now expect when we pick up a book review. All twenty or any one can be read as examples of the happiest combinations of substance and good writing put forth by any one now called a historian. No graduate student should fail to read the volume.

And, believe it or not, the last communication I had from their distinguished author, whose essay on Marxianism leaves its dialectic no place in democratic America, was a telegram saying his excellent textbook on modern Europe was under attack by a citizens committee (euphemism for obscurantist patrioteers) in Washington, D. C. The country at large elects and sends to Washington some strange representatives, but why should those who live there produce even stranger irrationalities! The second edition of this volume ought to have an essay on that problem.

GUY STANTON FORD

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS

Hudson's Bay Company: A Brief History. (London, Hudson's Bay House, 1934. ix, 68 p. Illustrations.)

List of Books Relating to Hudson's Bay Company. ([London], 1935. 13 p.)

The Hudson's Bay Company has produced in this Brief History a very useful book. It gives, very succinctly, a complete history of one of the oldest, if not the oldest, of incorporated business firms from its foundation in 1670 to the present day. Written with a simplicity and a directness that suggest a possible usefulness as advertising of the best type, it is nevertheless sound historically. The voluminous records of the company have supplied more than one fact. Indeed, the careful student will do well to read certain portions of the text with care. Some passages that a layman might pass over without realizing their value are supplied from sources not hitherto available. Such is, to all appearances, a section on "Further Company Exploration" (p. 27–29), which tells of explorations in the far Northwest, on the East Main, in Labrador, and beyond the Arctic Circle by John
McLeod, Samuel Black, Robert Campbell, Alexander Hunt Murray, William Hendry, Erland Erlandson, Dr. John Rae, and others. Another is the discussion of the founding of Lord Selkirk's colony and of relations between the two great rivals, the Hudson's Bay Company and the Northwest Company, until coalition came in 1821. It is also very much worthwhile to have an authoritative statement from the company itself of its present activities, personnel, and area of operations, such as is furnished in the last part of the volume.

The book is admirably printed and illustrated. An error or two must be mentioned. The authors have followed earlier writers in the matter of the second trip made by Groseilliers to the Lake Superior country, and represent him and Radisson as returning to the lower St. Lawrence in 1663. That trip was made in the years 1659 and 1660. To be sure, Groseilliers did set out in 1662 from Trois Rivières for the Ottawa country via the "Sea of the North," but the proof of the trip, as far as the present reviewer is aware, is unknown to all save herself. In any event, the two trips should not be confused.

On the same page occurs a confusion in names that has become so common among historians of the period that it is quite to be expected. The person who met Radisson and Groseilliers in New England was not Sir George Carteret, but a man whose name was pronounced in exactly the same way, though spelled differently. This was Colonel George Cartwright, one of the king's commissioners, who conducted Radisson and Groseilliers to England, and there placed them in the hands of Sir George Carteret.

On page 11 Henry Kelsey is credited with being the first white man to see the buffalo. Perhaps this was true in extreme northern regions, but certainly not within the present area of the United States. Radisson in 1659 saw buffaloes and described them in the account of his travels that he wrote about 1669. Nor was he the first. A manuscript map in Paris, which at the latest can be dated 1658, represents the buffalo unmistakably.

The usefulness of the volume is enhanced by two end maps: one showing the forest areas, Rupert's Land, and the company's posts; the other, the "Establishments and Transport Routes of the Hudson's Bay Company." There are over forty illustrations, many of them of more than ordinary appeal and value.

With the history may very well be mentioned a List of Books Re-

Roger B. Taney: Jacksonian Jurist. By CHARLES W. SMITH, JR., Ph.D., Rutgers University. (Chapel Hill, The University of North Carolina Press, 1936. xi, 242 p. $3.00.)

For many years those interested in the Jackson period have regretted the absence of an adequate life of Roger B. Taney based upon the vast amount of material made available by the last two or three decades of historical research in that most fascinating of periods. Much work has been done on Jackson with new biographies and the publication of many volumes of correspondence. New lives of Webster, Cushing, Van Buren, and others have appeared, but several of the major statesmen have been neglected. Professor Swisher has filled a great gap in our knowledge of the period by his timely publication of this biography of Roger B. Taney, who came over from his early Federalism to work for Jackson, served in his cabinet, aided in the war on the Bank of the United States, and was appointed by him to be chief justice of the Supreme Court.

The figure which emerges from Mr. Swisher's pages is altogether satisfactory, consistent, logical, and important. Our growing knowledge of the period has encouraged the belief that Taney played an important part in the Jackson administration and that his ability and services entitled him to a high place in any account of the period. His thirty years as chief justice contained so much of value that, whatever our opinion upon the Dred Scott decision, the case fades into insignificance beside those numerous decisions where Taney's clarity

GRACE LEE NUTE

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
ST. PAUL
of thinking, fundamentally liberal philosophy, and keen appraisal of American institutions kept the court abreast of the changes which marked the years of his service. The conservatives of the year 1835 felt that the worst had happened when Taney was appointed to the position of the great John Marshall, who had so enhanced the power of the national government and had so ably protected the rights of property. Succeeding years showed that the court was not to lose its high prestige under the new chief justice, but that he was a great liberalizing influence and that by his interpretations of the rights of corporations and of the commerce clause of the constitution he was to develop the right of the states to protect, through the police power, the welfare of their citizens.

Professor Swisher's account of the early life of Taney gives the background of slave-owning, planter Maryland, which was undoubtedly responsible for much of the man's antagonism for the bank and for much of his attitude toward questions of property, as well as for his position on issues involving slavery. Feeling as he did about the evils of predatory wealth, Taney threw all his energy and ability into Jackson's attack upon the bank. Whether that attack was wise or not, whether the financial distress which came upon the country after the bank had been killed could have been avoided had the bank remained undisturbed, are questions we cannot answer. Taney never doubted the wisdom of his actions. Professor Swisher has used much new material upon the bank question, including Taney's own manuscript history of the bank war, which makes the question far more interesting and justifies the devotion of about a third of the book to that period in Taney's career.

Almost as much space is given to the period of the chief justiceship, with the Dred Scott and the Civil War decisions relegated to the relatively unimportant position which they seem to merit. Professor Swisher states that the immediate effect of the Dred Scott decision was slight, but that its ultimate effects were of great significance and that it showed the undoubted intention of Taney and his colleagues to curb the power of the North and furnish protection to the southern interests, then in hopeless minority, and thus prevent the catastrophe whose approach was all too apparent to the old man who loved the Union as much as he did the rich culture of his own section of that Union and who, hating slavery, yet dreaded the effect upon the country of the attack upon it. The decision in the Merryman case,
which received such bitter criticism in the period of the Civil War, has now come to be regarded as a "courageous defense of the rights of citizens against the usurpations of military brusqueness and tyranny." The heroism of Taney in handing down such a decision under the circumstances in which it must have been given cannot be denied.

Professor Swisher's style is clear and pleasing. He has a fine sense of the dramatic elements in the period and in the life of Taney, and a rare impartiality in his presentation of the events of his career. He is willing to permit the results of his careful research to tell their own story and to let us see a great man play his part in a stirring and tragic era. The format of the book is all that could be desired; text, annotation, bibliography, and index are all adequate, and the publishers have used everything that the art of bookmaking could contribute toward the success of the venture.

A very interesting analysis of Taney as chief justice and of the decisions and position of the Supreme Court during that period is given in Charles W. Smith's Roger B. Taney, Jacksonian Jurist. The book is in every way thoroughly satisfactory. Content, format, citations, bibliography, and index are a credit to both the author and the University of North Carolina Press. The animosity toward Taney because of the Dred Scott and Merryman decisions was carried over by the hatreds generated by war to such an extent that his reputation as a jurist has suffered ever since. Mr. Swisher and Mr. Smith have done a very valuable thing in placing before us the record of Taney's life and of the court over which he presided so ably for nearly thirty years.

Taney's firm belief in democracy, in the sovereignty of the "corporate people," his clear understanding of the nature of the Union and of the relationship between states and nation are reflected in the decisions of the court in those epochal years. Mr. Smith's analysis of those decisions is invaluable in making a truer estimate of Taney's place as a jurist. After a careful reading of that analysis one is brought to the logical and almost inevitable conclusion that Taney was a great jurist and a liberal statesman, and that his career well merits the comment of Chief Justice Hughes, which Mr. Smith quotes—"one of the most distinguished careers in American annals."

Alice F. Tyler
University of Minnesota
Minneapolis

The text of this booklet— with the exception of about twenty pages— consists of a translation of a letter written to relatives of Jacob Schramm and published in Saaz, Bohemia, in 1837. The story of its publication is similar to that of a number of other “America letters”—the publisher and interested parties hoped and expected that the revelation of the experiences and observations of a disillusioned immigrant would be a specific against “America fever.”

Jacob Schramm’s experiences on the transatlantic voyage, on the Erie Canal, and on the frontier are typical of those of thousands who preceded and followed him. Whether the immigrant belonged to the advance guard of fortune-seekers, as did Schramm, or whether he traveled in a palatial liner to find employment in the complex society of America in the twentieth century, he faced the same problem of adjustment to strange conditions. This emigrant from Nuremberg, who thought of America as an asylum for a young man who was about to marry against the wishes of his father, did not find Indiana a Canaan.

The letter presents the writer torn between temptations to return to his fatherland, with its odious class distinctions, and to remain in the new country, in spite of its primitive civilization, the drab appearance of its landscape, its large claims on the stamina of its citizens, and the absence of churches and schools. As in the case of most immigrants, time solved the problem for Schramm. A growing bank account, an increasing family, rising land prices, and the fading memories of childhood and youth threw the balance in favor of America.

Although the letter adds nothing new to the history of immigration, its publication makes available an interesting story and enables the historian to write with a surer hand.

George M. Stephenson

University of Minnesota
Minneapolis
Guarding the Frontier: A Study of Frontier Defense from 1815 to 1825. By Edgar Bruce Wesley. (Minneapolis, The University of Minnesota Press, 1935. xi, 217 p. $2.50.)

In spite of all that has been written about the influence of the frontier, the history of the westward movement remains one of the most promising fields open for research. In fact, it is likely that the Turner hypothesis appeared a generation too early. Theories of government and society have been based upon the presence and disappearance of the frontier, although investigators have not yet revealed exactly what the frontier was in economic organization and population and how one stage in its development merged into another.

The cordon of military posts that advanced before settlement was a necessary instrument in the process. Professor Wesley has reconstructed that cordon as it was in the decade following 1815. Probably as a reaction to the school of writers who have considered romance the most important element in every aspect of life in the West he avoids this feature entirely, and the frontier that he depicts is a matter-of-fact place where trappers, Indians, and an occasional settler made a living according to their own rules, and the army served as the umpire.

Several aspects of this military frontier have been described by previous writers, and some of the forts and stations have found historians. But no one has hitherto explained the system as a whole as it evolved during the formative years. In the early chapters, dealing with Indians and Indian trade, little that is new is presented, but chapters 6 and 7, which describe the national military policy and army administration, are valuable contributions to phases of the subject that are worthy of fuller investigation, and the late chapters, which cover the general advance after 1815, recount a story that has been told previously only in terms of individual expeditions. This advance involved a new distribution of troops along the Florida and the southwestern frontiers, a strengthening of the posts that guarded the Great Lakes, and, in the Northwest, a bold thrust into the Indian and British traders' territory that stretched from the upper Mississippi to the upper Missouri.

Americans of 1818 and 1819 followed the movement into the Northwest with an interest that illustrates the importance that they attached to the enterprise. Two expeditions were organized. The
Missouri expedition was destined, in the popular mind, for the mouth of the Yellowstone and was often referred to as the Yellowstone expedition. It advanced no further, however, than the Council Bluffs, where Fort Atkinson was constructed in the fall of 1819. During the same summer, Colonel Leavenworth, in command of the Mississippi expedition, moved north from Prairie du Chien to the mouth of the Minnesota River, where he spent a winter in camp and where the post later known as Fort Snelling was built. This event, which is properly recognized as a landmark in the history of Minnesota, obtains an even greater significance when it is related to the broad and statesmanlike program of which it was a vital part.

In a volume that is burdened with the names of many persons and places, few mistakes have been noted. The Indian rendezvous in Lake Huron was Drummond Island, not Drummond's Island (p. 125), and the pioneer trader was Ramsay, not Ramsey, Crooks (p. 35). A little more precision in the placing of the dots on the map on page 112 would have been welcome; Fort Armstrong, for instance, was located north of the mouth of the Rock River and the site of Fort Holmes was on Mackinac Island, not on the mainland.

Marcus L. Hansen

University of Illinois
Urbana

The Modern Commonwealth of Minnesota: A Syllabus. By Theodore C. Blegen, assisted by Lewis Beeson. (Minneapolis, The General College, University of Minnesota, 1936. 81 p. Multigraphed. $0.50.)

There are various methods of reading history. One who has only a casual interest is likely to read at random those books that appeal to him or that attract a great deal of popular comment. This type of reading furnishes vivid and impressionistic ideas, but it leads to no systematic grasp of an era, region, or aspect.

The more serious student of history is likely to read carefully and thoroughly a few well-selected books of a rather inclusive type. He thus secures a fairly definite and systematic grasp of large portions of history. He does not, however, read very widely, and he formulates only a vague notion of how history is actually written.

A third method of studying history involves the use of a systematic guide or syllabus. The orderly outline of topics, with their respective
subdivisions, furnishes the framework of organization, and the references to books, monographs, and articles enable the reader to appreciate the significance of the outline. Although laborious and requiring the expenditure of considerable effort, this method, if pursued with diligence, will lead to insights and understandings which the other two methods will never achieve. The booklet under examination is designed to induct the reader into the third method of studying history.

The outstanding characteristic of this syllabus is its contemporaneity. Within the last five years there has been a great shift of emphasis from "history as the record of the past" to "history as the explanation of the present." Using the historical approach and sacrificing none of the integrity of that approach, the author has nevertheless succeeded in focusing the material and the references upon the present situation. His objective is an understanding of the present, but his historical method is neither weakened nor sacrificed. He has thus skillfully blended the past and the present.

Most of the chapters reveal this quality of being focused upon the contemporary scene. The chapter title announces the general theme, the first few subdivisions designate the early developments, and the last few are directed toward the present situation, and, in some instances, they indicate present and future problems. In dealing with a few major topics, such as agriculture, immigration, and politics, the author has found it necessary to divide the material on the basis of chronology into more than one chapter.

The syllabus indicates a rather complete view of Minnesota. Politics, music, art, health, recreation, conservation, social change, rural life, and varied industries are only a few of the topics outlined. The syllabus should, therefore, be regarded as a guide to contemporary sociology, economics, and government, as well as to recent and current history. Whoever utilizes it faithfully will gain a clear and comprehensive understanding of a complex commonwealth.

Two other features deserve mention. The references are unusually full, and most of them are to articles and books of unquestionable merit. MINNESOTA HISTORY furnishes a large number of the articles; Folwell's history is cited frequently; and several books written from a national viewpoint will enable the reader to guard against any inclination to put an undue emphasis upon developments that are primarily local. The other feature is the series of questions that ac-
companies each chapter. Some of them are rather general and more or less routine, requiring for their answer the mere marshaling of facts. By far the greater number, however, present challenges, the meeting of which would require reading, studying, and the reconstruction of information. And in some instances the author, evidently fearing that the reader may fail to see the significance of the question, elaborates the point. In fact, the reader almost hopes that he is about to secure the answer, but after indicating a possible line of approach, the author quickly withdraws from the scene.

This syllabus is certain to serve as a useful and stimulating guide to students, teachers, and ambitious readers. Those who have a less energetic attitude are certain to be dissatisfied. The reviewer, for example, was disappointed again and again when he hoped to secure some answers instead of more questions. He looked to see if the next topic was developed more fully, but he found merely another topic with its challenging subdivisions. In the name of other readers whose curiosity is strong and whose time is limited, he calls upon Dr. Blegen to atone for having aroused unsatisfied wants by setting himself at once to the task of turning this syllabus, including the utilization of every reference and the answer to every question, into a complete and satisfying account of The Modern Commonwealth of Minnesota.

EDGAR B. WESLEY

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA
MINNEAPOLIS


This annual publication of the Catholic Historical Society of St. Paul, composed of some seven papers of interest to Minnesota Catholic readers, is up to its usual standard. Either by plan or by accident, the articles in this number deal principally with Catholic education. The first article, by the Reverend Joseph Corrigan on "The Catholic Industrial School of Minnesota," is the history of an educational endeavor on the part of the church of early Minnesota to fit the underprivileged boy for life. To one who pictures Minnesota in 1876 as a state that still had a great deal of cheap land, a Minnesota that still had frontier conditions, it is somewhat of a surprise
to learn that Bishop Grace tried to gather the poor, the wayward, and the homeless youths into a school that would at the same time be a home and fit them for a respectable life. The short life of this school would seem to indicate that social conditions did not, as yet, justify such an institution. This school, in the care of the Brothers of St. Francis, existed but two years at St. Paul before it was removed to Clontarf in 1878. Again there were handicaps in the lack of pupils and building accommodations and in the discouragement of the teachers. But in 1884 the institution gained new life when it opened its doors to Indians. With government aid the school expanded its buildings to such an extent that in 1897, when the government funds ceased, the venture collapsed. The author in passing takes note of other schools affected by the same legislation, but he is mistaken in his statement that St. Benedict's Academy at St. Joseph was a school for Indian and white children. The Indian school was a separate institution with its own building and its own staff of teachers, though it was situated in the same village as the academy.

Sister Antonia McHugh in her article on “The Mendota Convent School” pictures another type of school, one that was established by the Sisters of St. Joseph in the Sibley House at Mendota in 1867. The author gives intimate glimpses of life at this school for white and half-breed children, conducted from 1867 to 1878. A third and more successful educational endeavor is traced in a well-worked-out article on “The Diocesan Seminary Project in St. Paul” by the Reverend William Busch. This narrative, which commemorates the golden jubilee of the seminary, differs from the general run of anniversary sketches in that it does not picture the life of an institution but gives rather “an account of the germination and growth of the project from the very start—a sort of prehistory.” The Reverend J. B. Tennelly has edited a letter written in 1854 by Father Pierz, the Indian missionary, describing Catholic and Protestant Indian mission schools in Wisconsin and Minnesota. In his introduction, the editor attempts to evaluate the missionary's judgment of the relative success of Catholic and non-Catholic Indian schools and missions. The story of the Church of St. Mary and its parish school in St. Paul, the first part of which appeared in the issue of Acta et Dicta for 1934, is concluded in this number.

The two remaining papers are of the reminiscent type: “Captain William B. McGrorty” written by his daughter, Eugenie McGrorty,
and "The Catholic City Federation of St. Paul" by Joseph Matt. The latter writer depicts the origin of the Stadtverband, a federation of German Catholic societies in St. Paul, and throws light on the attempts of the Nationalbund to obtain the support of the German Catholics of Minnesota in order to present a "united German-American front" in American politics. The author of this paper reveals that, as editor of the Wanderer, he refused to support the Nationalbund, and instead called a meeting of the German Catholic societies of the city at which the un-American and unchristian character of the organization was exposed. Out of this meeting in 1909 developed the Catholic City Federation of St. Paul, which today is taking an active part in Catholic activity.

Sister Grace McDonald
College of St. Benedict
St. Joseph, Minnesota


This interesting and authoritative description of the Architectural, Structural, and Monumental Stones of Minnesota is concerned principally with the technical, economic, and scientific aspects of an important industry. The authors describe briefly the geological formation of Minnesota so far as it affects and explains the character of the quarrying industry. The book contains useful material about one of the most important natural resources of the state, one of the few that probably is inexhaustible; it explains in considerable detail the operation of the industry, describing the machinery used and the technical methods followed in extracting stones of all kinds; and it gives detailed information about the location of the industry, with statistics on the value and volume of production and the uses to which the product has been put. The authors show the relative importance and proportions of the various types of stone used for monumental purposes and for building materials. They also describe important buildings, both within and without the state, constructed in whole or in part of Minnesota stone.

The book is made up of an introduction and five chapters. In the
opening chapter the authors deal with the geological and chemical character of Minnesota stones; in the second, they describe the physical properties of the stones with reference to their economic uses and the technical conduct of the industry; in the third, they tell of machinery and methods used in the conduct of the industry. The introduction and the last two chapters contain some historical material. Ten pages of the introduction are devoted to a brief resume of the beginning, development, and importance of the quarrying industry. Chapters 4 and 5 contain descriptions of the quarrying industry in the areas which produce granites and sedimentary and metamorphic rocks, with brief references of a historical character to the origin and development of the industry in each area. The quarries are described and located, and the nature of the stone produced and the uses to which it is put are discussed.

The volume is well bound and well printed and is profusely illustrated with no less than seventy-eight photographs, charts, and maps, and ten colored plates showing the texture of various types of building stones. Numerous tabulations of statistical material, an appendix, a bibliography, and a good index are included. Lists of companies now engaged in producing cut stone in Minnesota and of inactive or abandoned quarries appear in the appendix. It would be of interest to know the use to which the extensive areas of abandoned quarries have been or may be put.

Despite the fact that the material presented in this volume is principally of a technical and scientific nature, it should, because of its authoritative exposition of an important Minnesota industry, find a place in every library that lays emphasis on Minnesota history.

D. S. Brainard

State Teachers College
St. Cloud, Minnesota


The value of published memoirs as sources for research in the history of the frontier is often somewhat obscured by the inclusion of speculative musings interesting only to the author. Willard Dillman, in his biography of his father, follows the usual pattern of reminiscences in this respect. Nevertheless, the faithful and detailed
recording of the everyday happenings in the life of this prairie farmer
gives a homespun charm to the account and compensates for a certain
lack of objectivity and a somewhat discursive manner of presentation.

The narrative opens with the farming experiences of Jacob Dillman
shortly after his settlement in Lyon County near Marshall in 1872. The author, his eldest son, attempts to recall for this record
the incidents of his boyhood and has succeeded in producing a graphic
account of farm life in the last three decades of the nineteenth cen­tury. The mishaps and trials in the application of machinery to agri­
culture are well illustrated in Dillman's adventures. As head of a
threshing crew, he had a responsible position in the community. His
small boy, who acted as tender of the straw carrier, was so concerned
in the activities that he is able to describe vividly the procedures nec­
essary with the type of equipment then available. The transitory
character of much of the farm machinery is suggested in Dillman's
purchase of a wire binder for harvesting wheat in the early eighties,
only to find it unwieldy and quickly outmoded by a model using twine.

Recreational outlets for the community are recounted — the sing­
ing school, the reading club for the study of Dickens, a writing school
conducted by a "scholar and chirographist" whose name, Franklyn
McFarland, with its Fs and M gave excellent opportunity for illus­
tration of the instructor's skill. Baseball, too, the author recalls, had
an important place, for he distinguishes a new decade by the recollec­
tion of a game in which a player was pronounced "safe" and Spald­
ing's rules of 1880 were quoted to support the decision. The general
store in Marshall, where boys' boots with copper toes were sold,
the gunsmith's shop managed by a Civil War veteran, the lunches
of cheese, crackers, and gingersnaps when expeditions into town
were made — all these are part of the background which the author
sketches. Such items add a direct and sincere quality that might be
lost in a more studied presentation. The small size of type selected
for the printing, the lack of the author's name on the title page, and
the large number of typographical errors are defects in composition
which detract from the appearance of the book.

Dillman was typical of the ambitious and industrious farmers in
southwestern Minnesota and South Dakota, and his life is a subject
worthy of this record.

Evadene Burris

Boston, Massachusetts

This book is the author's gift to his posterity. "If one of my grandfathers or great-grandfathers," he writes, "had put down on paper the story of his life and described his surroundings and the conditions of his time. . . . they would have been highly interesting to distant posterity and would have given them an insight into earlier days." But such a record, he adds, "would have deprived me of much pleasure in my efforts to discover who my ancestors were and how they lived." There are many who will agree with him that the genealogical quest is a fascinating one.

The Cole line is traced back through nine generations of Kools, Cools, Kohls, and Coles—spelled "according to the way the dominies recorded the name at the time of baptism or marriage"—to one Barent Jacobson Kool, who came to New Amsterdam in 1636. For two hundred and fifty years they lived and died close to the Atlantic seaboard. With Dr. William Henry Cole, who moved to Illinois in 1873, the family was transplanted to the Middle West; his son Haydn, author of this volume, settled in St. Paul, and his granddaughter lives on the Pacific coast. Thus within a single lifetime the Cole family "has spread itself across the face of the continent."

In his reminiscences, occupying about a quarter of the volume, the author places chief emphasis upon the military activities of his life—assuming, perhaps, that future generations will be more interested in the soldier than in the man of business affairs. After four "difficult, grinding" years at West Point he entered the United States army as a second lieutenant. During the next seven years, from 1885 to 1892, he performed post duty at Forts Ellis and Custer in Montana Territory and served as chief engineer officer on the staff of Brigadier General Thomas H. Ruger and of General Wesley Merritt, successive commanders of the Department of Dakota, with headquarters at St. Paul. While he was on General Ruger's staff, about 1890, Lieutenant Cole located Fort Yellowstone, laid out the infantry barracks and sewer system at Fort Snelling, prepared maps of the then little-known Glacier National Park, and mapped the region of South Dakota for the troops that were fighting the Sioux. In 1892, being
physically disqualified for promotion, he was retired as a first lieutenant.

During the World War Colonel Cole gave distinguished service as a transportation officer. He was put in charge of the Hoboken Shore Railroad when it was placed under government ownership; in November, 1917, he was made supervising superintendent of docks, wharves, and terminal facilities in New York City; and from April, 1918, he was storage officer of the port of New York. All these offices carried with them tremendous responsibilities for the storage, handling, and transportation of army goods and supplies. For efficient service rendered in the face of great difficulties, Colonel Cole was later awarded the distinguished service medal. His value, says an official commendation, was in no small measure due to the fact that he was possessed of an "excellent business ability rarely found among army officers."

Colonel Cole devotes only one short chapter, "Lawyer and Financier," to his long business career in St. Paul. Following his retirement from the regular army, in 1892, he entered upon the practice of law in St. Paul, soon becoming a member of the firm of Stevens, O'Brien, Cole, and Albrecht. During the years since 1903 he has served as vice president, president, and director of the Northwestern Trust Company, director of the First National Bank of St. Paul, president and director of the First National Bank of Hastings, director of the St. Paul Fire and Marine Insurance Company, vice president and director of the Twin Falls North Side Land and Water Company, and a partner in the Investment Service Company.

The volume is well printed and handsomely bound, without the ostentatious decoration of many genealogical works. Another common fault of works of this kind — the arrangement of the index under three or four alphabets — has been avoided by entering all the material in both the genealogy and the autobiographical sketch in a single index.

Livia Appel

University of Minnesota Press
Minneapolis
MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
NOTES

Beginning with this issue, MINNESOTA HISTORY will include brief notes on contributors of articles. Dr. R. D. W. Connor ("Our National Archives") was professor of history and government in the University of North Carolina before his appointment by President Roosevelt as national archivist in 1934. From 1903 to 1921 he served as secretary of the North Carolina Historical Commission. He is the author of several books, including North Carolina: Rebuilding an Ancient Commonwealth (1929). Professor Laurence M. Larson ("The Kensington Rune Stone") is the head of the history department in the University of Illinois and one of our leading American historians. He is the author of the King's Household in England before the Norman Conquest (1904), Canute the Great (1912), a History of England (1923), and other works, and he is the editor and translator of the King's Mirror (1917) and Gulathingslög hin eldri: Earliest Norwegian Laws; Being the Gulathing Law and the Frostathing Law. The latter work, translated from the old Norwegian, was published in 1935 by the Columbia University Press in its series of Records of Civilization: Sources and Studies. Professor Larson has recently been elected second vice president of the American Historical Association, an honor that will lead to his elevation to the presidency of the association in 1937. Mr. John T. Flanagan ("Oscar Wilde's Twin City Appearances") is instructor in English at the University of Minnesota. Readers of this magazine will recall his essay on "Thoreau in Minnesota," published in the March, 1935, issue.

Editorial comment in the press of the state on the work of the Minnesota Historical Society frequently stresses the permanent value of that work to the people of Minnesota. Thus the Minneapolis Tribune in its issue for January 15 writes that the society, "as a result of its uninterrupted work," has assembled "a store of material which is of inestimable value." It describes the society as "a monument to the forethought" of the pioneer settlers of Minnesota. "Although the majority of our citizens may take the efforts of such organizations
as this for granted, or ignore them entirely, the fact remains that they
are performing a service which is of permanent value to the state and
its people."

A plea for the preservation of local historical materials "now, be­
fore all survivors of the pioneer era have passed away," is made in an
editorial in the Minneapolis Journal for January 13. As an example
of an item preserved by a local historical society, the typewritten letter
of 1846 described by Judge Haycraft in the December issue of MIN­
NESOTA HISTORY is cited. "Such interesting documents can't be
found in every county," but in every community records can be assem­
bled that "will mean much in providing sidelights on the frontier
days of a generation and more ago." The part played by the state
society in fostering county historical organizations is noted.

"The efforts of the Minnesota Historical society in St. Paul to
enlarge its collection of church records and to be a clearing house for
information about materials preserved in church archives deserve the
co-operation of every congregation and community in the state," reads
an editorial in the St. Paul Pioneer Press for December 9. It urges
ministers to fill out the questionnaires recently distributed by the
society in order to make available in "one central depository the
church bibliography of Minnesota." "History confined only to gov­
ernment distorts the actual story of an ordinary American commu­
nity," continues the editorial. "The Minnesota Historical society is
an agency which realizes that a great part of people's lives is not
embodied or reflected in political units and that the church and other
institutions have contributed their important share to the sphere of
private thought and enterprise."

An interesting comment about the society appeared on November 7
in Mr. R. W. Hitchcock's weekly news release entitled Minnesota
News and Comment. Mr. Hitchcock called attention to the fact
that Governor Ramsey as early as 1849, in his first message to the
territorial legislature, recommended the collection and filing of cur­
rent newspapers. The society itself was formed in the fall of that
year and its collecting activities have gone on since that time. Today,
with some seventeen thousand bound volumes of newspapers "splen­
didly filed and cared for in filing stacks occupying four floors below
the main floor of the historical building," the society faces a need
for more space. "Hence the digging in the front of the historical building and the tedious toil in breaking down thick cement platforms and walls, all for the purpose of providing more room for newspaper files." Mr. Hitchcock adds, however, that the problem of newspaper storage and filing ultimately may have to be solved by microphotography. "Some day in the future when you want to consult publications in the historical building you will look through a lens to read the magnified photograph of a page of the paper." The account closes with the opinion that the work of the society is invaluable.

A former newspaper librarian on the staff of the society, Mr. John Talman of Gold Beach, Oregon, is the author of a valuable communication on "Newspapers and History," with special reference to the society's collection, which appears in *Editor and Publisher* for October 19. He cites Mr. Will Durant "as saying that in his history researches he had found that newspaper material was sometimes more authoritative than any data he could lay his hands on," and remarks that often during eighteen years of service with the Minnesota society "historians . . . would have come to grief but for our aid." Mr. Talman mentions particularly Dr. Folwell's use of the society's newspaper collection.

Forty-five additions to the active membership of the society were made during the three months ending December 31, 1935. They include one life member, Mrs. Julia T. McCuish of Stillwater; one sustaining member, George Sommers of St. Paul; and the following annual members: Dr. William H. Banks of Yakima, Washington; Barbara H. Bartlett of Ann Arbor, Michigan; E. Hjalmar Björnson of Minneapolis; Dr. Scipio Bond of Anoka; John L. Brin of Stewartville; Earle Brown of Minneapolis; the Reverend Joseph A. Corrigan of St. Paul; Edward F. Crandall of Minneapolis; Dr. Bernhard J. Cronwell of Austin; Mrs. Leeds H. Cutter of Anoka; Grace A. Dunn of Princeton; Mrs. Harriet K. Eberhardt of Scarsdale, New York; "The Eddy Farm" of Willmar; Harold S. Edwards of Minneapolis; William H. Egan of St. Paul; Gordon F. Ekholm of Cambridge, Massachusetts; Nan C. Elmquist of St. Paul; John T. Flanagan of St. Paul; Dr. Wilfred P. Freligh of Albert Lea; Peter B. Gaass of Crookston; Mary Gussman of St. Paul; Dr. Julius Johnson of Minneapolis; Mrs. R. G. Johnson of St. Paul; the Reverend
M. Caspar Johnshoy of Starbuck; Mrs. C. O. Kalman of St. Paul; Mrs. Alma B. Kerr of St. Paul; Mrs. Effie M. McLean of Grand Portage; Frances Manahan of Minneapolis; Mrs. Edward Mattson of Beaver Bay; Dr. E. Lawrence Meyer of Minneapolis; Richard W. Morin of Albert Lea; Harry G. Myser of St. Paul; Timothy O'Connell of Renville; Walter H. Parker of Minneapolis; Frank L. Peterson of St. Paul; Julius S. Pomeroy of Minneapolis; Mrs. Claire Runyan of Cambridge; the Reverend Lawrence F. Ryan of St. Paul; Mr. and Mrs. George Smith of Iron River, Wisconsin; Glanville W. Smith of Cold Spring; Julius Spokely of Crookston; Harold E. Stassen of South St. Paul; and Samuel A. Wallace of Crookston.

The Society of Mayflower Descendants in the State of Minnesota has become an institutional member of the society.

The society lost thirteen active members by death during the three months ending on December 31: Charles P. Craig of Washington, October 1; Dr. Charles G. Nordin of St. Paul, October 9; Mrs. Charles E. Furness of St. Paul, November 1; Mrs. James T. Morris of Minneapolis, November 1; Mrs. James Manahan of St. Paul, November 6; Mrs. Charles G. Rank of St. Paul, November 8; George Harrison of Minneapolis, November 12; Benjamin D. Smith of Mankato, November 19; Henry A. Swenson of Center City, November 23; William H. Putnam of Red Wing, November 26; Max H. Herrmann of St. Paul, November 28; Dr. Edward S. Judd of Rochester, November 30; and Paul W. Winnegge of Bird Island, December 7. The deaths of Mrs. Lizzie L. Brown of Los Angeles on December 7, 1934, of Guy L. Runyan of Cambridge on June 19, 1935, and of Mrs. H. L. Stark of St. Peter on July 9, 1935, have not previously been reported in this magazine.

A set of “Historical and Museum Project Suggestions and Directions,” issued in multigraphed form by the Minnesota WPA, consists of suggestions furnished by the Minnesota Historical Society for “indexing newspapers,” for “inventories, interviews, copying and collecting,” and on “museum methods for local museum supervisors.”

Copying Manuscripts: Rules Worked Out by the Minnesota Historical Society, compiled under the direction of the manuscript division, Grace Lee Nute, curator, has been brought out by the society in the form of a small pamphlet (19 p.) printed by the offset process.
Miss Nute has edited for publication in the December issue of the Beaver “Two Documents from Radisson’s Suit Against the [Hudson’s Bay] Company” that she discovered in the Public Record Office during her residence in London last year. They are Radisson’s bill of complaint against the Hudson’s Bay Company “for non-payment of certain sums of money” and the company’s reply. Miss Nute reports that she found in all “eleven chancery documents relating to the case, which was instituted on May 22, 1694, and which closed on January 28, 1697.” The documents published in the Beaver contain a wealth of material on Radisson and Groseilliers and on the early history of the Hudson’s Bay Company. Miss Nute expects to make use of this material in her forthcoming biography of the French explorers. A “Preview” of this work appears in the Bulletin of Hamline University for October.

The late Dr. William E. Leonard’s picture of student life at the University of Minnesota in the seventies, which appeared in the issue of this magazine for June, 1935, is reprinted, in part, in the Minnesota Alumni Weekly for December 7.

At a convocation held on October 7, St. Olaf College conferred the honorary degree of L. H. D. on the superintendent of the society.

The superintendent attended the fiftieth annual meeting of the American Historical Association, which was held at Chattanooga, Tennessee, from December 27 to 30. At a national conference of archivists, held as one session of the meeting on December 28, he presented a paper on “Problems of American Archivists.” He addressed the annual meeting of the Norwegian-American Historical Association at Northfield on October 7, taking as his subject “The Trail of the Immigrant Pioneer,” and he spoke on “Meeting the Challenge of the Present in Education” before members of the Augsburg Alumni Association in Minneapolis on November 2. Miss Nute gave talks on her European experiences before the Hamline Faculty Club on October 8, members and friends of the Minnesota Historical Society on October 21, the Zonta International of St. Paul on October 22, and the American Association of University Women in Minneapolis on November 20; she described the new Radisson material that she discovered during her year of study as a Guggenheim fellow before a meeting of the Minnesota Library Association in St. Paul on Oc-
October 11; she addressed the Washington County Historical Society, meeting at Marine on November 13, on the history of the St. Croix Valley; she spoke on “The Voyageur” at a luncheon meeting of the state forestry division in St. Paul on November 21 and at a meeting of the Twin City History Teachers Club in Minneapolis on December 12; she described “Our Local Records” before the Minnesota branch of American Penwomen in St. Paul on December 7; and she was interviewed about her work as curator of manuscripts in a radio program over station WCCO on December 19. Mr. Babcock gave an illustrated talk on “American Exploration and the Military Occupation of Minnesota” for the St. Marks Study Club of St. Paul on October 11; he discussed “Possibilities for Local History and Museum Work in Minnesota” before supervisors of women’s projects for the state WPA in St. Paul on October 16; and he spoke on “Visualizing Minnesota” at Hutchinson for the local woman’s club on November 7. Miss Fawcett compiled a list of Minnesota publications issued in 1934–35, which she discussed under the title “A Minnesota Book Shelf” at the meeting of the Minnesota Library Association on October 10.

It should be made clear to members that the society has given no endorsement of the authenticity of any novel dealing with Minnesota backgrounds.

Accessions

Calendar cards for papers in the Indian office received recently from Dr. Newton D. Mereness, agent at Washington for a group of midwestern historical societies, cover most of the first half of the nineteenth century and contain much information about early events and characters in Minnesota history. Among the subjects touched upon are the Carver grant, the struggle between Lord Selkirk’s followers and the agents of the Northwest Company after the War of 1812, the Cass expedition of 1820, the trading activities of Ramsay Crooks and Robert Stuart, the British leanings of Joseph Rolette, the treaty of Fond du Lac in 1826, the houses built by Eben Weld and other Indian farmers, the activities of Henry M. Rice, the removal of the Winnebago, and Indian schools and missions.

Copies of fifteen letters written during the years 1836 to 1840 by Bishop Frederic Baraga and his sister, Antonia Hoeffern, have been
made for the society through the courtesy of the Reverend Hugo Bren of Lemont, Illinois, who discovered the originals among church archives in Laibach, Austria (see ante, 15:222). The missionary tells of a trip to Europe in 1837 for the purpose of collecting money for his missions on Lake Superior, plans for ministering to the Indians at Grand Portage, and a visit to Fond du Lac. His sister, who accompanied Baraga on his return from abroad, gives her impressions of America and of the Indians at La Pointe. Another interesting Baraga item recently added to the society's collections is the original manuscript of the bishop's *Grammar of the Ochipwe Language*, which has been received from Mr. Bernard Halliday of Leicester, England. The manuscript, which was compiled between 1871 and 1873, contains two dialogues "for the use of missionaries" that are not to be found in edition published at Montreal in 1878.

Photostatic copies of five letters received by Joseph N. Nicollet, the French explorer of the upper Mississippi Valley, have been made for the society from the originals in the New York Public Library. The letters which were written between 1832 and 1842 by Alexander D. Bache, George Engelmann, Sir William Stewart, Gerard Troost, and Pierre Chouteau, Jr., touch upon personal and scientific matters.

Hudson's Bay Company trading posts in the vicinity of Roseau Lake during the period from 1847 to 1860 are the subject of a report prepared by the company for Mr. Eddy E. Billberg of Roseau, which has been copied for the society through the courtesy of his daughter, Miss Inga Billberg.

Filmslides of a number of letters of Minnesota interest in the collections of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin are the gift of Mr. Charles M. Gates of the National Park Service. They include thirty letters written in the seventies by Gustav and Gottfried Boss-hard and members of their families from Owatonna, where they were engaged in farming; and two letters written in 1849 and 1850 by Joseph W. Holt, a missionary at Fond du Lac. Mr. Gates also has presented a film copy of a report, from the archives of the war department in Washington, which was prepared by Nicholas Boilvin, Indian agent at Prairie du Chien, on February 11, 1811.

A small diary kept by Robert Watson on a journey up the Mississippi from Galena to St. Paul in April, 1850, has been presented by
his daughter, Miss Isabella Watson of Northfield. The diarist reports a conversation with the Reverend William Boutwell of Stillwater about crops and fruit trees, and describes a visit to Minnehaha Falls.

Evidence that a wealth of Minnesota material exists in New England newspapers and periodicals of the fifties is offered on calendar cards, made recently for the society, for papers in three Boston depositories—the Congregational Library, the Massachusetts State Library, and the Boston Public Library. According to these cards, information about such subjects as immigration to Minnesota, its advantages for farmers and health-seekers, the Winona normal school, the constitutional conventions, and the Winnebago Indians is to be found in such Boston news sheets as the Advertiser, the Transcript, and the Journal, and in such agricultural papers as the New Hampshire Journal of Agriculture and the Massachusetts Ploughman. A series of letters relating to Minnesota was located in the latter publication after clippings of five items that appeared in 1859 were received from Mr. William H. M. Adams of Minneapolis. They were written from St. Paul and Champlin by Mr. Adams' uncle, Chandler B. Adams, who signed his communications "Beta."

An unusual and valuable mass of information is contained in some ten thousand pages of records of the Oakland Cemetery Association of St. Paul, which have been photographed on filmslides and filed with the society by the association. Included are the minutes of meetings of the trustees and lot owners from 1854 to 1935, indexes of interments, field plat books, and similar data. The records furnish vital statistics, such as the ages of persons interred, places of birth, causes of deaths, and names of heirs.

The first parish register of the oldest existing Lutheran congregation in St. Paul, that of Trinity Evangelical Lutheran Church, has been photographed for the society through the courtesy of the pastor, the Reverend Adolph Haase. The volume, which is written in German, contains the constitution, bylaws, and a brief history of the church; records of baptisms, burials, and marriages from 1857 to 1875; lists of confirmands from 1868 to 1874; and lists of attendants at Holy Communion from 1860 to 1875 and from 1889 to 1903.
Parish records of Episcopal churches at Farmington, Glencoe, Elk River, and Shakopee, covering periods of varying lengths between 1858 and 1921, have been added to the archives of the Minnesota diocese of the Protestant Episcopal church through the courtesy of Dr. Francis L. Palmer of St. Paul. Minutes of meetings of a parish guild at Farmington from 1900 to 1904 and a scrapbook of programs of the diocesan Sunday school association accumulated between 1889 and 1907 also are included in this addition to the church archives. The Whipple estate has added to the same archives two scrapbooks of clippings and programs relating to the activities of Episcopal schools and churches, kept by Bishop Henry B. Whipple from 1859 to 1901.

A diary kept in the Andersonville prison in 1864 by Ransom A. Chadwick, a member of the Eighty-fifth New York Volunteer Infantry, and a few miscellaneous papers relating to his Civil War service have been presented by his grandson, Mr. Earl C. Towner of St. Paul. Chadwick later became a resident of Winona.

Diaries kept by Lewis C. Bisbee of the Sixteenth Maine Volunteer Infantry in 1864 and 1865 during his service in the Union army and while he was confined in the Libby prison at Richmond, Virginia, have been presented by Mrs. Della V. McKiver of Minneapolis. She has presented also a book of autographs of Union officers who were in prison with Bisbee, a copy of his reminiscences, and a set of wooden chessmen that he carved when he was in prison.

A typewritten copy of a diary kept by Thomas Priestley of the Thirtieth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry while on the Sully expedition of 1864 has been made from the original in the possession of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin.

Mr. George E. Barnum of Duluth has presented a copy of his reminiscences, which include information about the building of the Lake Superior and Mississippi Railroad in 1869 and the grasshopper plague in northern Minnesota in 1877.

The charter issued on December 16, 1873, to the Minnehaha Grange of Richfield Township, Hennepin County, and two volumes of minutes of meetings for the period from 1873 to 1886 have been presented by that organization through the courtesy of Mr. George Willson of Minneapolis. The minutes contain information about the
routine business of the Grange, its social activities, and its co-operative activities in buying various products in wholesale quantities for distribution among its members.

The reminiscences of David M. Fyffe, who left Scotland in 1882 to become local manager for the American Land and Colonization Company of Scotland at Woodstock in Pipestone County, have been received from his widow through the courtesy of his daughter, Mrs. P. T. Gillie of Columbus, Ohio. The narrative, which covers 173 typewritten pages, contains valuable information about Fyffe's agricultural activities, state and county fairs, blizzards, pioneer life in southeastern Minnesota, and numerous Scotch and English settlers who occupied the company's lands.

The minutes of meetings from 1881 to 1883 of the Hebrew Ladies' Benevolent Society of St. Paul, which later became known as the Jewish Relief Society, are recorded in a small volume presented by Mrs. Joseph G. Simon of St. Paul. The society was organized for the purpose of raising funds for the building of Mount Zion Temple, but it developed in time as a welfare organization.

Interesting and valuable information on the labor movement in St. Paul is contained in a volume of minutes of meetings from 1882 to 1889 of the Trades and Labor Assembly of St. Paul, which has been received from that organization through its secretary, Mr. Elroy D. McKinnon. The volume contains records of strikes, boycotts, blacklists, and negotiations with employers, and periodic reports on business conditions in the various trades.

An agricultural account book kept by Mr. John H. Lawrence of Litchfield from 1889 to 1934 and a diary covering the period from 1919 to 1929 have been photographed for the society through the courtesy of the author. The price and length of service of all machinery used by Mr. Lawrence on his farm during the period covered by his accounts, the dates for planting crops and the yield per acre, the receipts from farm produce, and the wages paid to farm laborers are among the items to be found in the account book.

A typed copy of the reminiscences of George C. Hazeltine, a railroad telegraph operator in Minnesota and in western and southwestern states in the eighties and nineties, has been made for the society
through the courtesy of Mr. Ellis E. Dildine of St. Paul. The construction of the Northern Pacific Railroad through Montana, buffalo and antelope hunts, and many aspects of frontier life are described in the narrative.

Plans for a book on the Bacon-Shakespeare question, engagements for literary and political speeches, and the conventions held in 1893 and 1898 by members of the People's party are among the subjects mentioned in eight letters of Ignatius Donnelly, photostatic copies of which have been made for the society from the originals in the possession of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. The letters were written between 1891 and 1898 to L. H. Wellner of Independence, Iowa, and Henry Demarest Lloyd of Chicago.

Twelve filing boxes of papers of the late Dr. Alfred Owre, who served as dean of the college of dentistry in the University of Minnesota from 1905 to 1927 and who later held a similar position at Columbia University, have been received from his widow, Mrs. Elizabeth Owre of New York City. The collection, which covers the period from 1904 to 1934, includes letters from Cyrus Northrop, George E. Vincent, Dr. Charles H. Mayo, Senator Henrik Shipstead, prominent dentists throughout the country, and many of Dr. Owre's students. Many items relating to the dental profession, the course of study for dentists, and the activities of dental societies also are included among the papers.

About twenty articles on subjects of medical interest by Dr. George C. Wellner, most of which were written between 1906 and 1911 for the Red Wing Republican and the Goodhue County Medical Society, have been presented by the author's widow, who resides in Minneapolis.

Two volumes of reports and printed programs of annual meetings from 1909 to 1926 of the Northwestern Minnesota Educational Association have been presented by the secretary, Mr. A. C. Clark of Bemidji.

Two volumes containing printed programs and manuscript registration lists for the annual meetings of the Woman's Synodical Missionary Society of Minnesota for the period from 1909 to 1927 have
been presented by that organization of the Presbyterian church through its secretary, Mrs. J. H. McClanahan of White Bear Lake.

Taxes on lands in Michigan and Wisconsin and the sale of the properties are discussed in about a hundred items of correspondence exchanged between John S. McDonald of Minneapolis and his son, Mr. John F. McDonald, during the years from 1913 to 1916. These letters, together with a plat book of Michigan, in which some of the lands discussed are located, have been presented by the younger Mr. McDonald.

A filing box of papers and three scrapbooks of newspaper clippings relating to the career of the late Professor Clarence H. Eckles of the college of agriculture in the University of Minnesota have been presented by his widow, Mrs. Alice Eckles of Ida Grove, Iowa. Professor Eckles' influence on the development of dairying first in Missouri, where he taught before 1919, and from that time until his death in 1933 in Minnesota is revealed in these papers, which include articles from his pen, correspondence, and biographical sketches.

Letters and tributes written in 1921 at the death of Thomas R. Kane, a lawyer and a member of the city council of St. Paul, are among twenty-four items that have been presented by his widow, Mrs. Thomas R. Kane of St. Paul. Included also are papers on various subjects prepared by Mrs. Kane as a member of the Dames of the Round Table and copies of minutes of annual conventions in 1919 and 1921 of the Minnesota Federation of Women's Clubs.

Fifty letters written to the late Emil Oberhoffer, for two decades conductor of the Minneapolis Symphony Orchestra, have been presented by his widow, Mrs. Emil Oberhoffer of Savage. Included are letters from such prominent figures in the musical world as Frederick A. Stock, Percy Grainger, and Mrs. Edward MacDowell. An oil portrait of Oberhoffer also has been presented by Mrs. Oberhoffer.

About a hundred items of genealogical data on the Wenzell, Smart, and allied families, have been added to the Wenzell Papers (see ante, 15:344) by Mr. Henry B. Wenzell of Stillwater.

Term papers prepared for a course in Minnesota history at the University of Minnesota on "Some Aspects of the Settlement of
Fillmore County from 1851 to 1875, with Special Reference to the Norwegian Element" by Milo I. Sween, on the "Society for the Propagation of the Faith and the Diocese of St. Paul" by Francis H. Hammang, and on the "Cretin Collection" by Emmett O'Donnell have been added recently to the society's manuscript collection. The last two are based on the Cretin collection in the possession of the Catholic Historical Society of St. Paul. A senior thesis on "A Railroad Period in the History of the United States Exemplified in Minnesota, 1849 to 1860," which was submitted by Wilfred O. Stout to the history department of Princeton University in 1932, has been photographed for the society through the courtesy of the author.

An autobiographical sketch and the reminiscences of Mr. Andrew Gibson, an engineer of the Northern Pacific Railroad Company who aided in the construction of the Stampede Tunnel in the state of Washington, have been received through the courtesy of the author.

Two scrapbooks of programs and clippings about concerts given under the auspices of the Schubert Club of St. Paul from 1932 to 1934 have been compiled by Mrs. D. S. Elliott and added to the archives of that organization in the possession of the society (see ante, 14:218).

"The Political Development of Lake County," a paper read by Judge William E. Scott of Two Harbors at the seventh annual North Shore Historical Assembly at Beaver Bay on August 3, 1935, is the gift of the author.

A copy of an address delivered by Mr. Leonard Eriksson of Fergus Falls on November 13, 1935, as a part of a program commemorating the twenty-fifth anniversary of the building of the Augustana Lutheran Church of Fergus Falls, is the gift of the author.

A large collection of newspapers, most of which were published at Bird Island in the eighties, has been presented by the late Paul W. Winnegge of Bird Island. They include some issues of the Bird Island Blizzard, the Bird Island Post, and the Bird Island Union, and an incomplete file extending from 1881 to 1903 of the Renville County Union published at Bird Island and Hector. Issues of papers published in other Renville County communities, including Beaver
Falls, Franklin, Morton, and Renville, are among the items in this gift. There are also some issues of St. Paul and Minneapolis papers and a few early papers published in Dakota Territory.

Complete files of the *Crookston Daily Tribune* from November 26, 1894, to November 27, 1899, and of the weekly edition of the same paper from January 2, 1896, to December 29, 1899, have been presented by Mr. J. C. Sim, Jr., of Grand Forks, North Dakota.

A little volume entitled *The Pick of Peck's Poems* (Hokah, 1935. 74 p.) is the gift of the author, Mr. H. E. Wheaton, editor of the *Hokah Chief*. Comments about current events and local conditions are to be found in many of the verses. The booklet is an interesting addition to the society's collection of Minnesota poetry.

Mr. Herbert C. Varney of Stratham, New Hampshire, has presented a gray silk wedding dress dating from 1874 and several interesting additions to the domestic life collection, including a pair of hand-wrought andirons, a grill, a toaster, a pot rest, a large copper ladle, a mortar and pestle, a small Windsor chair, and a Gothic clock. A tin bathtub dating from the eighties is the gift of Mrs. W. B. Parsons of St. Paul.

A homespun and hand-woven tablecloth, a skein of hand-spun linen thread, and a number of dress accessories, including a lace shawl, a scarf, mitts, several brooches, and a number of bags and fans are among the items received recently from Mrs. Martha A. Bronson of Merrifield. A white silk dress dating from 1885 and a pair of pantalets made in 1850 are the gifts of Miss Alice Pomroy and Mrs. Ruth Pomroy Auge of St. Paul; a pair of wedding shoes worn in 1893 has been received from Mrs. D. R. Kane of St. Paul; and Mrs. E. L. Roney of Stillwater has presented a khaki colored serge riding habit worn about 1900.

Several pieces of white china dating from the forties, a silver butter dish and knife of the sixties, a pieced quilt made in 1875, some glass dishes used in the eighties, a black silk parasol used in 1911, an evening dress of 1913, and a number of dress accessories are the gifts of the Misses Frances and Margaret Densmore of Red Wing. Miss Frances Densmore has presented also a birchbark moose call.
Several Indian objects, including a Sioux headdress, a quiver, bows and arrows, war clubs, beaded ceremonial bags, and silver bracelets, which were given by Bishop Henry B. Whipple to George C. Christian, have been presented in the latter's memory by his widow, who resides in Minneapolis. A number of Spanish, French, and Indian fans, an enameled brass tray, a pottery vase, and a brass candlestick have been received from General Charles McC. Reeve of Minnetonka Beach.

A beautifully dressed doll dating from the seventies has been presented by Miss Jessie M. Watson of Washington, D.C., through the courtesy of Miss Maude Stewart of Northfield. An iron toy bank in the form of a policeman is the gift of Dr. James C. Ferguson of St. Paul.

Two transparencies used in the Cleveland and Harrison presidential campaigns have been received from Mr. Cyril Rosenberger, through the courtesy of Mr. D. S. Brainard of St. Cloud.

Recent additions to the society's picture collection include an oil painting of the boat landing at Excelsior, from Dr. C. N. Spratt of Minneapolis; a number of early Minnesota scenes, from Miss Dorothy H. Huggins of San Francisco; photographs of lumbering scenes and activities, from Mr. John A. Bardon of Superior, Wisconsin; and photographs of the first safe and of the articles of incorporation of the Farmers and Mechanics Bank of Minneapolis, from Mr. A. H. Crosby of Wayzata, through the courtesy of Mr. Ira C. Oehler of St. Paul.
NEWS AND COMMENT

The provisions of the Historic American Sites Act recently passed by Congress should be better known than they are. Among other things this legislation, which was signed by President Roosevelt on August 21, 1935, gives authority to the secretary of state, acting through the National Park Service, to "secure, collate, and preserve drawings, plans, photographs, and other data of historic and archaeological sites, buildings, and objects"; to "make a survey of historic and archaeological sites, buildings, and objects"; to "restore, reconstruct, rehabilitate, preserve, and maintain historic or prehistoric sites, buildings, objects, and properties of national historical or archaeological significance and where deemed desirable establish and maintain museums in connection therewith"; to "erect and maintain tablets to make or commemorate historic or prehistoric places and events of national or archaeological significance"; and to "develop an educational program and service for the purpose of making available to the public facts and information pertaining to American historic and archaeological sites, buildings, and properties of national significance."

Among papers of special interest presented at the annual meeting of the American Historical Association in Chattanooga, Tennessee, from December 27 to 30, may be mentioned Vernon D. Tate's "Micro-filming as an Aid to Research," Avery O. Craven's "A Rural Interpretation of the Causes of the Civil War," Charles W. Ramsdell's "Lincoln and Fort Sumter," Edgar E. Robinson's "In Praise of Newspapers," and the presidential address by Professor Michael I. Rostovtzeff of Yale University on "The Hellenistic World and Its Economic Development." There were as usual numerous conferences centering about special historical interests. At the conference of state and local historical societies, Christopher B. Coleman of Indiana discussed the relationship of such agencies to the American Historical Association and paved the way for the appointment of a committee that will have as its purpose the strengthening of the conference. About fifteen persons participated in the discussion following Theodore C. Blegen's paper on "Problems of American Archives" at the luncheon conference of archivists. In this
paper the organization of an institute of American archivists was proposed, and the discussion led to the naming of a committee to take preliminary steps toward the creation of such an institute. Yet another conference was that of editors of historical publications. At the business session of the association Professor Charles H. McIlwain of Harvard was elected president. Dean Guy Stanton Ford of Minnesota was advanced from the second to the first vice presidency.

In his new book entitled *Robert Tyler, Southern Rights Champion, 1847-1866: A Documentary Study Chiefly of Antebellum Politics* (Duluth, Minnesota, 1934. ix, 387 p.), Dr. Philip G. Auchampaugh has published a most interesting collection of letters from and to Robert Tyler written in the period between the Mexican and the Civil wars. Robert Tyler was a son of President John Tyler who lived in Philadelphia and was a friend and political supporter of James Buchanan and a considerable force in the Democratic machine of Pennsylvania. The collection contains many letters from Buchanan, from Governor Wise of Virginia, from ex-president Tyler, and from other men of prominence in the Democratic party in the period. The picture of party intrigue, of presidential aspiration, and especially of growing apprehension of disunion and civil war is extremely interesting. One might wish that Mr. Auchampaugh had indicated the circumstances which led to the publication of the letters, but there is no information as to where or how he found them. We are left to infer that they are, in large part, in the possession of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, but it would be interesting to know more about them. The arrangement of the letters is sometimes confusing, and the relegation of all annotation to the back of the book is annoying, but perhaps the difficulties of printing are explanation for many defects. It is certain that students of American party history of the fifties will be grateful to Dr. Auchampaugh for his work in editing and publishing this collection.

ALICE FELT TYLER

A re-examination of the "old American habit of party creation . . . in the light of new experience" is made by Frederic L. Paxson in an article entitled "The New Frontier and the Old American Habit," which appears in the *Pacific Historical Review* for December. The part played by the West, and particularly the western farmer, in the creation of American political parties is stressed by Professor Paxson.
He points out that "since the frontier hypothesis was launched in 1893 it has been impossible to overlook the fact that along the imaginary line dividing the cultivated farms from the plains and forests of the virgin West each of the four great parties took its rise."

A suggestive essay on "Painter Reporters of the New World" is contributed by Harold Stark to a recent volume on *Art in America* edited by Holger Cahill and Alfred H. Barr, Jr. (1935. 162 p.). Mr. Stark describes the painters and engravers who traveled to America with the explorers of the sixteenth and seventeenth centuries as the "news-reel men of their day, the pictorial reporters of the newly discovered Americas." Their pictures of "vine-clad natives, lush landscapes, and sailing ships in strange harbors," he writes, were "shown to anxious backers of expeditions and to kings, avaricious for new lands and the fabulous gold of the Indies." Two centuries later the works of artists who had sketched in the upper Mississippi Valley were used to encourage immigration to Minnesota and the Northwest. The "pictorial reporters" of this section of America might well be made a subject of study.

"Of all the materials which historians use in their efforts to reconstruct the past, pamphlets offer the greatest range of information and throw the clearest light upon the 'mental furniture of the ordinary man,'" writes Charles F. Mullett in an article on "The Historian and the Use of Pamphlets," which appears in the *Library Quarterly* for July, 1935. "The difference between composing a history and merely baling sawdust," continues the writer, "may often be found to consist in a judicious use of pamphlets as opposed to strict dependence on formal records."

Evidence purporting to show that Jane Grey Swisshelm is the true author of a volume entitled *Behind the Scenes*, which was published in 1868 and was written, allegedly, by a Negro dressmaker named Elizabeth Keckley, is presented in an article in the *Washington [D.C.] Star* for November 11. The book is a revelation of the private life of the Lincolns during their residence in the White House and for a few years after the death of President Lincoln. One or two contemporary reviewers of the book expressed doubt as to its authorship, and in general the volume was not favorably received. Friends of the Lincoln family are reported to have bought all out-
standing copies, and the entire edition was supposedly recalled. It is now so rare that only three copies are listed in the Sabin bibliography of rare books—one in the Library of Congress, one in Harvard University Library, and one in the American Antiquarian Society at Worcester, Massachusetts. The article in the Star is based on the researches of David R. Barbee, a student of the Lincoln period. Mr. Barbee goes so far as to say that he is convinced that Mrs. Keckley never existed. He bases his claim that Mrs. Swisshelm is the author of the book on certain alleged similarities between incidents related in the Keckley book and in Mrs. Swisshelm's autobiography, Half a Century, published in 1880; on supposed similarities of style between the writings of the two women; and on a statement of a gossipy Washington reporter who, Mr. Barbee says, shortly after the publication of Behind the Scenes, referred to Mrs. Swisshelm as the "author of the Mme. Keckley book." Other writers have been quick to come to the defense of Mrs. Keckley. On November 15 the Star published a letter from J. E. Washington, in which Mr. Barbee's charge that Mrs. Keckley is a fictitious character is vigorously denied. Mr. Washington claims to have ample proof of her identity, and says that she is the author of the volume. In the Journal of Negro History for January appears a communication from Dr. Francis J. Grimke of Washington, D.C., who states that for over thirty years Mrs. Keckley attended the church of which he was pastor. Although Dr. Grimke does not claim that Mrs. Keckley wrote Behind the Scenes, he creates the impression that she at least was capable of doing so. The controversy rests at this point. No detailed exposition of Mr. Barbee's claim has yet been published, and it is, therefore, impossible to pass judgment on the validity of his charge. Until such proof is forthcoming, it would seem that Mrs. Keckley must be accepted as the author of Behind the Scenes. Mr. Barbee's conclusions, as published in the Star, have been used as the basis for articles in the St. Cloud Sentinel for November 14, the St. Paul Pioneer Press for December 26, and the Minneapolis Journal for December 29.

A. J. L.

A study of the Pre-Cambrian Rocks of the Lake Superior Region by C. K. Leith, Richard J. Lund, and Andrew Leith has been published by the United States Geological Survey as Professional Paper 184 (Washington, 1935. 34 p.). A "review of newly discovered
geologic features” of a region that includes Minnesota is presented herein with a “revised geologic map.”

How the Chippewa on reservations in northern Minnesota observe the Christmas season is described by J. W. Kauffman in Indians at Work for December 15. The author also tells of some of the Christmas articles that are made and sold by the Chippewa women.

The notation “After sketch by F. B. Mayer, 1851,” is written below the signature of Frederic Remington on a sketch entitled “A Voyageur.” This is enough to arouse the curiosity of any Minnesotan who is familiar with Mayer’s diary and sketches as published by the Minnesota Historical Society in 1932. The Remington drawing is reproduced, with a brief explanatory note, in The Month at Goodspeed’s Book Shop, Boston, for October. The writer of the note seems to have been curious, too, for he remarks: “Where Remington found the sketch or what contact he had with Mayer, we do not know, but should like to.” An explanation supplied by Mr. Robert W. G. Vail, formerly librarian of the Minnesota Historical Society and now with the American Antiquarian Society, appears in The Month for November. Mr. Vail writes: “This drawing is, except for the face, almost an exact copy of the drawing by Frank B. Mayer which is reproduced opposite page 59 of With Pen and Pencil on the Frontier in 1851. . . . Mayer calls this picture ‘The Winter Dress of a Red River Half Breed.’ He made two drawings of the same subject, front and rear. Remington copied the front view even to the pose, but entirely changed the face.” The Mayer drawings were acquired by Edward E. Ayer, the great Chicago collector of Americana, shortly after Mayer’s death in 1899. It may be surmised that Remington first saw them after this date, for his own drawing was published in 1903.

The tenth annual meeting of the Norwegian-American Historical Association was held at Northfield on October 7. Among the subjects of addresses and papers presented at the meeting were “On the Trail of the Immigrant Pioneer” by Theodore C. Blegen, superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society; “Collecting and Preserving Norwegian-American Source Materials” by Laurence M. Larson, head of the department of history in the University of Illinois; “Developing Research Workers in the Particular Field of
Our Association” by Paul Knaplund of the department of history in the University of Wisconsin; and “The Slavery Question and the Founding of Luther College” by Karen Larsen of the department of history in St. Olaf College.

A community of “Norse Canadians” in the Bella Coola Valley of British Columbia is described by Clifford R. Kopas in Maclean’s Magazine (Toronto) for April 15, 1935. The writer reveals that the band of pioneering Norwegians who settled in the valley in the fall of 1894 left homes in Minnesota, Wisconsin, Iowa, and North and South Dakota.

A Brief Record of the Development of the Milwaukee Road from the Chartering of Its First Predecessor Company in 1847 to Date—July 1935 by F. H. Johnson has been issued as an illustrated pamphlet by the Chicago, Milwaukee, St. Paul and Pacific Railroad (60 p.). It is made up of “data concerning the first construction and later development of the lines composing the present” railroad, arranged by states. Under the heading “Minnesota” are noted the various lines that have been absorbed by the Milwaukee road in this state, including the Minneapolis and Cedar Valley, the Minneapolis, Faribault and Cedar Valley, and the Minnesota and Pacific railroads. A useful list of the first lines constructed in Minnesota by other railroad companies is included.

To mark the passing of three-quarters of a century since the Augustana Synod of the Lutheran church was organized and Augustana College and Theological Seminary was founded, the Augustana Book Concern has published a volume entitled After Seventy-five Years, 1860—1935: A Jubilee Publication (Rock Island, Illinois, 1935). Many Minnesota connections are brought out in the volume, particularly in a chapter devoted to charitable institutions and hospitals maintained by the synod. An excellent chapter on the early years of the synod is contributed to the volume by Professor George M. Stephenson of the University of Minnesota.

A “History of Forest Planting in the Lake States” by Paul O. Rudolf, which appears in the Minnesota Conservationist for October, contains a survey of reforestation work in Michigan, Minnesota, and Wisconsin from 1888 to the present.
An important group of "Letters of John McLoughlin, 1805-26," recently discovered in the hands of a granddaughter of Alexander Fraser, has been supplied with an introduction and annotations by Jane Lewis Chapin and published in the *Oregon Historical Quarterly* for December. These letters are of special interest to Minnesotans, for most of them were written during the period when Dr. McLoughlin was engaged in the fur trade along the northern border of what is now the North Star State. The two earliest letters are dated at Kaministiquia in 1805 and 1806; several were written from Fort William between 1808 and 1814; one came from McLoughlin's "winter quarters" at Lake Vermilion in March, 1812; and one was sent in January, 1823, from Rainy Lake. The letters are concerned for the most part with the trader's personal affairs and with his family, but there are numerous references to trading operations and to his medical practice. The publication of more letters in future issues of the *Quarterly* is promised.

Eight out of ten planned volumes have now been issued in the *History of the State of New York* that is being edited by Alexander C. Flick for the New York State Historical Association (see *ante*, 13:341). The latest volume, which is entitled *Wealth and Commonwealth*, sets an example in the writing of state history that might well be emulated in other commonwealths. It includes chapters, for example, on the history of agriculture, on "Wealth and Banking," on public utilities, on the "Rise of Humane Institutions," on the "Care of the Needy, the Sick and Homeless Children," and on the "Woman's Movement" in the state. Each subject is handled by an expert in the particular field under consideration. Volume 7 of the series, *Modern Party Battles*, includes a chapter on "Politics and Slavery, 1850-60," by Philip G. Auchampaugh of the Duluth State Teachers College.

"Jay Cooke's Early Work in Transportation" is the subject of an article by Henrietta M. Larson which appears in the *Pennsylvania Magazine of History and Biography* for October. The writer reveals that long before Cooke became interested in the upper Mississippi Valley and the Northwest he "helped build Pennsylvania's magnificent transportation system, and it was that work which was the foundation for his great ventures in western railroad building."
The first installment of the “Memoirs of a Civil War Sleuth”—William W. Winterbotham—who was active both in western Wisconsin and eastern Minnesota after his appointment as a deputy in 1863, appears in the *Wisconsin Magazine of History* for December. “My duties were to notify men who were drafted and to arrest deserters wherever found,” writes Winterbotham. Read’s Landing, Winona, St. Paul, and Fort Snelling figure prominently in this unusual story of the Civil War.

An attempt to provide for the tourist, particularly the motorist, “full and reliable information concerning the nature and location of Wisconsin landmarks of every kind” is made by Charles L. Emerson in a guide to *Wisconsin Scenic and Historic Trails* (Madison, 1933, 135 p.). Twenty-seven trails are described in the pamphlet, and for every community passed on these trails features of interest are listed. An index of places and a map of the state are included. Attention should be called also to a *Historical Map of Virginia and Adjacent Maryland* which has been published by the American Automobile Association and is being distributed by the State Commission of Conservation and Development of Virginia. On the map are shown the “main points of historic interest and the main traveled automobile routes”; on the reverse are a brief history of Virginia and short notes about “points of interest” in the state. A similar map of Minnesota would prove a boon to tourists.

The boat-building activities of David M. Swain and his sons are described in an article by Charles E. Barnum which is reprinted from the *Peoria [Illinois] Star* in the *Stillwater Daily Gazette* for November 4. The writer relates that the elder Swain established a machine shop and foundry in 1867 at Stillwater, where for several decades he built boats that were used on the St. Croix and the upper Mississippi. In 1890 he organized a packet line at Peoria and began to operate boats on the Illinois River.

The South Dakota Historical Society published the first number of the *South Dakota Historical Review* in October. The issue is devoted to a biographical sketch of “James (Scotty) Philip, 1858–1911,” prominent pioneer and cattleman, by his nephew, George Philip. The organization of the Minnesota and Dakota Cattle Com-
pany in 1896 by Philip in association with Charles Steube and Michael Mullen of New Ulm is noted (p. 31).

"The Frozen Priest of Pembina" by Margaret A. McLeod, in the Catholic World for November, is a sketch of the dramatic but sad adventure of a valiant priest who worked among the French and the métis at Pembina from 1858 to 1861. Father Joseph R. Goiffon’s crude surroundings, his love for his simple flock, his trip across Minnesota to see his church superior at St. Paul, his impatience to get back to his people on the Red River, the return trip, the unpreparedness which resulted in his being caught in a blizzard, his rescue only after his feet and legs were frozen, the amputation, and his surprising recovery are all vividly portrayed in this story. The author has based her narrative on information gathered from people who participated in some of the events recorded or who heard the tale from the lips of the priest himself. It corresponds in most details with Father Goiffon’s story of his mission ventures, the original of which is to be found in the St. Paul Seminary.

SISTER GRACE MCDONALD

Among the "Graduate Theses in Canadian History, Economics, and Law" listed in the Canadian Historical Review for September are the following of special interest to students of Minnesota and Northwest history: "The American Fur Company" by W. R. Bridgewater (Yale), "The Grain Trade of Canada, 1783 Onward" by F. W. Burton (Toronto), "The Defense of the Frontier, 1760-1775" by Paul O. Carr (Iowa), "The Problem of Agriculture and the Farmer in the Prairie Provinces" by D. W. Lusher (McGill), "Detroit in the British Administration of the West" by D. V. Morford (Michigan), and "Jesuit Travel to America (1678-1756) as Recorded in the Travel Diaries of German Jesuits" by Theodore E. Treutlein (California).

An interesting series of booklets — Les pages trifluviennes — relating to the history of Three Rivers, Quebec, has been appearing for some years. The celebration of the city’s three-hundredth anniversary in 1934 seems to have been the occasion for this delving into the past and the publication of much valuable historical data. Abbé Albert Tessier has been the moving spirit in the tricentennial and to him goes the credit for the artistic Les Trois-Rivières: Quatre siècles
d’histoire, 1535–1935, which appears as number 17 of series A (1934. 167 p.). It gives a brief history of the city, with special emphasis upon the period of exploration. In it one reads of many explorers and traders who are famous in Northwest history—Jean Nicolet, Radisson, Groseilliers, the Vérendryes, and Nicolas Perrot. It is refreshing to see them for once in their homes in Three Rivers, for Minnesotans tend to think of them as residents only of birchbark canoes. Another volume in the series of special interest for Minnesotans is Les pionniers de la région trifluvienne (1634 à 1647) by the Reverend Archange Godbout, O.F.M. (no. 14, 1934. 82 p.). Here one finds brief biographical sketches of the first settlers of Three Rivers and of a few persons connected with western exploration. This is probably the most scholarly work in the series, the author having ransacked the numerous greffes of notaries at Three Rivers and Quebec for a considerable part of his data. In a third booklet, Chapelles et églises trifluviiennes by Montarville Boucher de la Bruère (no. 3, 1933. 45 p.), one finds a reference to Groseilliers as part owner of an island near Three Rivers in 1654. G. L. N.

General Minnesota Items

Biographical sketches of several prominent Minnesota pioneers appear in volume 17 of the Dictionary of American Biography, edited for the American Council of Learned Societies by Dumas Malone (New York, 1935). Of primary interest and value is a sketch of Henry H. Sibley, fur trader, soldier, and statesman, by Solon J. Buck. Richard J. Purcell contributes an account of the career of James Shields, one of the first two senators from the newly admitted state of Minnesota; Lester B. Shippee is the author of a sketch of John H. Stevens, the first settler on the site of Minneapolis; and Thomas M. Spaulding reviews the story of the frontier soldier for whom the military post at the mouth of the Minnesota is named, Josiah Snelling. Colonel Snelling’s talented son, William Joseph Snelling, journalist and satirist, is the subject of a sketch by Allen E. Woodall; the career of another son, Henry Hunt Snelling, a pioneer in the field of photographic journalism, is described by A. J. Olmsted. Minnesota exploration is touched upon in sketches of Isaac I. Stevens, leader of the expedition which made the Pacific railroad survey of 1853, and of the artist who accompanied him, John M. Stanley. These accounts are from the pens of Joseph Schafer and T. P. Tolman, respectively.
The building of roads in Minnesota in the fifties is mentioned in accounts of James H. Simpson by Charles D. Rhodes and of Howard Stansbury by W. J. Ghent. The careers of Hiram F. Stevens, a prominent St. Paul lawyer and the founder of the St. Paul College of Law, and of Eugene V. Smalley, journalist and author of a history of the Republican party in Minnesota, are sketched by Professor Shippee. Two Episcopal churchmen, Charles L. Slattery, who served as dean of the cathedral at Faribault, and James M. Sterrett, a professor in the Seabury Divinity School, are the subjects of sketches by James W. Fawcett and Edward E. Richardson. Professor Purcell contributes an account of Thomas E. Shields, a native Minnesotan who attained prominence as a Roman Catholic priest and teacher. Of interest also is Frederick W. Coburn's sketch of John R. Smith, who painted a panorama of the Mississippi Valley that was shown in Europe and is "credited with greatly stimulating emigration" into the region depicted. Why, of the Mississippi Valley panoramists, Smith and Banvard have been included in the Dictionary of American Biography and Henry Lewis and Leon Pomarede have been omitted is a question that remains unanswered.

The Minnesota Archaeological Society began the publication of a monthly magazine, the Minnesota Archaeologist, last June. Among articles of interest that have appeared in its pages are a report by Ralph D. Brown and W. R. McIver on the "Further Exploration of the Harvey Rock Shelter" near Stillwater, in the July issue; a description of "Some Minnesota Ojibway Games" by B. W. Thayer, in the September number; an account of "Indian Pictographs in Minnesota," by Armin Arndt, in the November issue; and a study of "American Aboriginal Pipes" by Monroe P. Kelly in the number for December.

"Minnesota in First Movies" is the title of an editorial in the St. Paul Pioneer Press for October 10, which reveals that scenes from the Sioux War of 1862 are included in a forerunner of the motion pictures now on display in New York. The device, known as a "diaphanous," dates from the early seventies and "is being heralded as the first motion picture ever made."

A History of the Early Stages of the Organized Eugenics Movement for Human Betterment in Minnesota has been prepared by Dr.
Charles F. Dight and published by the Minnesota Eugenics Society (69 p.). The author describes the development and activities of the society, of which he was first president, since its organization in January, 1923, and traces the growth of legislation enacted in Minnesota pertaining to eugenical sterilization. The text of the laws together with articles on eugenics and allied subjects written by Dr. Dight and originally published in several Minneapolis newspapers also appear in the pamphlet. S. P. L.

A comparison of travel by air and by ox cart over the route marked by the Red River trails is made by Frank A. R. Mayer in an article entitled "Flying Pioneer Trails," which appears in the Minneapolis Journal for November 10. When airmail service between the Twin Cities and Winnipeg was inaugurated on February 3, 1931, "there were those on that frigid field at Pembina who still had recollections of the screeching carts," writes Mr. Mayer. Some tales of travel over the old Red River trails are retold by the writer.

A Silver Anniversary Address delivered by Mr. John E. Woolsey at the twenty-fifth annual convention of the Northwest Association of Ice Cream Manufacturers, which was held in Minneapolis on December 3 and 4, has been issued as a pamphlet (8 p.). Mr. Woolsey tells not only of the organization and progress of the association during a quarter century, but he describes early methods of manufacturing, packing, and marketing ice cream. For example, he relates that "ice cream was packed and delivered in tubs and that ice and salt cabinets were introduced about 1908," that "ice cream was sold at sixty cents per gallon in ten gallon tubs," and that two men who opened a cone factory in Minneapolis in 1909 "really introduced the ice cream cone to the public." A general history of ice cream should be written.

A log drive of 1884 by way of the Otter Tail, Bois des Sioux, and Red rivers to Winnipeg is described by E. A. Pelton of St. Cloud, who had charge of the drive, in the Fergus Falls Daily Journal for November 21. The account is quoted from Mr. Pelton's "little notebook or diary." He records that seven million logs were included in the drive, and that the men who did the work received from $75.00 to $250.00 per month.
A wealth of material about the forest fires in northeastern Minnesota in 1918 is included in a “Fire Reimbursement Jubilee Edition” of the Pine Knot of Cloquet, issued on December 6. Many of the articles about the fire are reprinted from other sources, but a number of original contributions appear in the issue. Among these are a “Brief History of the Minnesota Forest Service” by C. C. Carlton, a forest ranger in the Cloquet district, and an account of “Agricultural Development in the Cloquet Area” by A. M. Jacobson, instructor of agriculture in the Cloquet High School.

A plea for the preservation in its present natural state of the “tip of Minnesota’s picturesque Arrowhead region” including the village of Grand Portage is made in an editorial in the St. Paul Pioneer Press for November 20. As an argument against the rerouting of the North Shore highway through Grand Portage, the writer offers the suggestion that the region’s “topography, forestation and history make its development as a state park much more desirable than its reduction to the status of just another stretch of shore.”

“It was not until 1878 that the state encouraged the killing of wolves by paying bounties, a move intended to protect domestic animals as well as game,” reads an article in the St. Paul Pioneer Press for December 8. A list of the annual bounties paid for wolves in Minnesota since 1878 appears with the article.

During the last quarter of 1935 anniversaries were celebrated by the following Minnesota churches: eightieth anniversaries, by the Scandia Baptist Church on September 29, St. Mary’s Catholic Church of New Trier on October 6, and the Faribault Methodist Episcopal Church on October 15; seventy-fifth anniversaries, by Hauge’s Lutheran Church of Kenyon from October 10 to 13, St. Benedict’s Catholic Church of Benedict on October 13, the Middle Creek Evangelical Church from October 16 to 20, the Calvary Episcopal Church of Rochester on November 24 and 25, and the Sacred Heart Catholic Church of Duluth on December 8; a seventieth anniversary, by the St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church of Havana on November 10; sixty-fifth anniversaries, by the Zion Lutheran Church of Anoka on October 23, the Wells Methodist Church on November 3, the First Lutheran Church of Ellendale on November 9 and 10, the Pine City Presbyterian Church from November 23 to 25, and the Christ Episco-
pal Church of Albert Lea on December 29; fiftieth anniversaries, by the Zion Lutheran Church of New Auburn on September 29, St. Mary's Catholic Church of Rice on October 6, the Grass Lake Mission Covenant Church from October 18 to 20, the Aspelund Lutheran Church of Flom on October 20, St. Stephen's Catholic Church of Minneapolis on October 27, the First Baptist Church of Alden on November 22, the Madison Lutheran Church on November 24 and 25, the Grove Lake Methodist Church from November 24 to 27, the Asbury Methodist Episcopal Church of St. Paul and the Fremont Avenue Congregational Church of Minneapolis from December 1 to 8; a forty-sixth anniversary, by the Emmanuel Lutheran Church of Two Harbors on November 20; forty-fifth anniversaries, by St. Mark's Lutheran Church of North St. Paul on October 7 and the Gethsemane Lutheran Church of Hopkins from October 14 to 20; twenty-fifth anniversaries, by St. John's Lutheran Church of Garfield on October 6, St. Paul's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Foley on October 13, Our Saviour's Episcopal Church of Little Falls from November 10 to 17, the Augustana Lutheran Church of Fergus Falls on November 13, and the Memorial Lutheran Church of St. Paul on November 17; and a twentieth anniversary, by St. Paul's Evangelical Church of St. Paul on November 10. Articles about most of these churches appeared in local newspapers at the times of the celebrations noted above. Of special interest and value is an account of St. Mary's Parish and of the history of the New Trier community, in which it is located, in the Hastings Gazette for October 4. In several cases recent church anniversaries have been commemorated by the publication of historical sketches in pamphlet form. Fiftieth anniversaries occasioned the appearance of pamphlets about St. Paul Evangelical Lutheran Church of Rost in Jackson County, by H. Meyer, and St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Chaska, by Theodore and Otto Kohn and H. F. Ehlen. The Diamond Jubilee of St. Benedict's Parish and Sixtieth Anniversary of Franciscans Coming to Minnesota are marked by the publication of a pamphlet prepared by the Reverend Raymond Holte (40 p.). It contains a wealth of historical data about the Scott County community in which the parish is located and about the activities there of members of the Franciscan order.

A brief description of the "Minnesota State Capitol" by Minnie M. Dilley appears in the Daughters of the American Revolution
A brief sketch of William A. McGonagle published in Americana for January, 1934, and noted in MINNESOTA HISTORY for June of that year (see ante, 15:243) has been brought out in the form of a privately printed volume bearing the title William Albert McGonagle: A Biographical Memoir (New York, 1935. 27 p.).

Contact your local historical society.” This is one of “ten suggestions for the promotion of local material” by booksellers offered by John T. Winterich in an article entitled “Hurrah for the Old Home Town,” which appears in the Publishers’ Weekly for October 26. “If there is no local historical society, either start one yourself or have someone else start it,” continues Mr. Winterich. “If such a society exists but is inconspicuous by reason of its inactivity, join it and try to instill the breath of life into it. As an antiquarian bookseller you owe it to yourself and to your profession to belong to it.”

Inventories of local historical records preserved by the historical societies of Rice, St. Louis, and Blue Earth counties appeared in earlier numbers of this magazine (see ante, 16:241, 359, 489). A list of the more important manuscripts accumulated by the Pipestone County Historical Society, compiled during a state-wide survey of historical manuscripts, follows:

The minutes of the first town meeting held in Pipestone Township, 1877; a poll list of the first election held in Pipestone County; a minute book and some other records of the Pipestone post of the Grand Army of the Republic, 1888–1934; an account book kept by Narcisse Poulin about 1869; a diary kept by W. B. Brown from 1888 to 1934; a description of Indian mounds in Osborne Township, by D. E. Runals; and a number of township histories prepared by old settlers.

At a meeting of the Anoka County Historical Society, held at Anoka on October 7, the following officers were elected for the coming year: Dr. Scipio Bond, president; Milo Pomeroy, vice president; Mrs. C. P. McLean, secretary; John Shaw, treasurer; and Mrs. C. E. Chase, corresponding secretary. Mr. U. G. Herrick of Minneapolis was the speaker at a meeting of the society held on November 4. He presented an account of early days in Champlin and of his own experiences as a schoolboy in Anoka. Another feature of this
meeting was the reading of an article by Kelsey Lowe entitled "The Tale of a Farm." This interesting account of the Anoka County farm home of the writer's grandfather, Porter Kelsey, was first published in the *World*, a magazine issued at Central High School, St. Paul; it is reprinted in the *Anoka Herald* for November 6.

The exhibit rooms of the Blue Earth County Historical Society, in the basement of the Mankato Public Library, are open to the public every afternoon from three to five o'clock, according to an announcement in the *Mankato Free Press* for October 19. Two students from the department of history of the Mankato State Teachers College, under the direction of Professor Theodore Nydahl, are in charge of the rooms and are engaged in making an inventory of the society's collections.

Officers of the Brown County Historical Society were re-elected at the annual meeting held at New Ulm on December 18. They include Fred W. Johnson, president; August Hummel, vice president; Louis G. Vogel, secretary; and William Brust, treasurer. Mr. Johnson reported that some ten thousand manuscripts and clippings and an equal number of photographs had been mounted and filed in the collections of the society.

Members of the Cook County Historical Society journeyed northward into Canada to hold a joint meeting with members of the Thunder Bay Historical Society at Kakabeka Falls on October 6.

Plans for the collection of material relating to the early story of Cottonwood County and for the drafting of a history of the county were made at a meeting of the Cottonwood County Historical Society held at Windom on October 12.

At a meeting of the Crow Wing County Historical Society held at Brainerd on December 16, the following officers were elected: Dr. A. K. Cohen, president; William Spencer, vice president; Mrs. Sarah Heald, secretary; Mrs. J. M. Hayes, treasurer; and Judge L. B. Kinder, historian.

A period of renewed activity began for the Douglas County Historical Society with a meeting held at Alexandria on November 18. Plans were formulated for a local history essay contest, for monthly
meetings with interesting programs, for the establishment of a museum, for the collection of portraits of pioneers, and for the preservation of printed programs and other ephemeral material. The officers of the society are Constant Larson, president; Albert T. Olson, vice president; P. H. Unumb, secretary; and A. C. Schultz, treasurer. Rules for an essay contest open to all students in high schools in the county are announced in the *Alexandria Citizen-News* for December 5. Stories, essays, or plays depicting incidents in the history of Douglas County will be accepted. Contestants are urged to use as sources of information interviews with old settlers, diaries and letters, county archives, business records, and photograph albums.

The records of the Welsh post of the Grand Army of the Republic were presented to the Goodhue County Historical Society for permanent preservation at a meeting held at Red Wing on November 18. They include the charter, yearbooks, badges, flags, biographical sketches of members, and other items accumulated by a post whose last member died recently. The story of the participation of Goodhue County in the Civil War was reviewed by C. A. Rasmussen and C. T. Taylor.

An unusually interesting meeting of the Koochiching County Historical Society was held on October 6 at the Indian and county school at Nett Lake in response to the invitation of the principal, Miss Clara St. Lawrence. The program included addresses on various phases of the history of Nett Lake, such as its “Political History” by Albert Brown, the story of its schools by Mrs. Alva I. Brown, the discovery of the lake by Charles Day, and the industrial activities of the Indians by Lawrence Connor. A talk on “Nursing Care at Nett Lake” was presented by Miss A. C. Phillips. The formal program was followed by the playing of a game of lacrosse and the presentation of a number of Chippewa dances. About two hundred and fifty people attended the meeting.

All officers of the Martin County Historical Society, including Julius E. Haycraft, president, Mrs. H. W. Brodt, vice president, and Arthur M. Nelson, secretary, were re-elected at the annual meeting of the society on October 5. The acquisition of complete bound files of three Martin County newspapers, the *Sentinel*, the *Independent*, and the *Democrat*, was announced.
The collecting of objects of historical interest and value for preservation by the Marshall County Historical Society has been placed in the hands of a committee of twenty-three members, each of whom lives in a different community. The committee was named at the annual meeting of the society, which was held at Warren on December 2. At the same meeting, the following officers were elected: Judge Bernard B. Brett, president; Nels Malm, vice president; Mrs. Synneva Strunk, secretary; and Mrs. H. I. Yetter, treasurer.

Mr. A. E. Tasker, editor of the Lake Benton News, was the principal speaker at a meeting of the Murray County Historical Society held at Slayton on November 15. He told members of the society "How to Compile a History of Murray County," suggesting the use of such sources as newspaper files, county archives, church and school records, and the reminiscences of pioneers.

A volume containing a typewritten list of the names, with brief biographical records, of all veterans of the Civil, Indian, Spanish-American, and World wars who are buried in St. Peter cemeteries has been presented to the Nicollet County Historical Society by Mrs. Magnus C. Petersen, who compiled the record. The gift is announced in the St. Peter Herald for December 6.

A program of pioneer talks, early music, and folk dances was presented before a well-attended meeting of the Otter Tail County Historical Society at Fergus Falls on November 23. The speakers were Mr. William Boerger of St. Cloud, who described pioneer life particularly in the vicinity of Rush Lake, and Mrs. Hannah Kempfer, who told of her experiences as a pupil and as a teacher in the rural schools of Otter Tail County. Judge Anton Thompson was re-elected president of the society.

Several WPA workers are engaged in a project that is being developed by the Pope County Historical Society. Some workers have been assigned to the task of assembling data of value for the study of the history of the county; others have been given the task of transcribing, cataloguing, and indexing the material collected, which will be preserved in the society's rooms in the courthouse at Glencoe. For the purpose of gathering material on the history of schools, a questionnaire asking for detailed information about pupils, teachers, organize-
tion, books used, and the like has been sent to all schools in the county. Information on "health work" in the county is being assembled by means of another questionnaire.

Professor C. A. Duniway of Carleton College, Northfield, was re-elected president of the Rice County Historical Society at a meeting held at Faribault on November 18. The program included a talk by Dr. Duniway on his experiences in the field of historical research. A sketch of Alexander Faribault by Mrs. J. E. McLean was read by Miss Maude G. Stewart. The indexing of Rice County newspapers as a WPA project under the supervision of the local society was announced.

Mr. William E. Culkin of Duluth, who has served as president of the St. Louis County Historical Society since its organization in 1922, was re-elected to that position at the annual meeting of the society in Duluth on November 4. Other officers of the society are M. E. Fanning and Richard E. Carey, vice presidents; J. D. Mahoney, treasurer; and Anna L. Monson, secretary.

Papers presented at the North Shore Historical Assembly held at Beaver Bay on August 3 are appearing in installments in the Duluth Free Press. Mr. William E. Culkin's survey of the history of the "American North Shore of Lake Superior" appears in the issues published between November 15 and December 13; the first installment of Judge William E. Scott's account of the "Political Development of Lake County" appears on December 20.

A meeting held at St. Cloud on November 22 resulted in the organization of the Stearns County Historical Society. Mr. D. S. Brainard was elected temporary chairman and Miss Gertrude Gove was named temporary secretary of the new organization. A constitution and bylaws will be drafted by a committee headed by Miss Dora Perry. The society is planning to work in close co-operation with the WPA, which has an elaborate program of historical activity for Stearns County. This includes the assembling of manuscripts, objects, and data of historical interest and value, the establishment of a county museum, and the marking of historic sites.

Talks on "Nurseries, Past and Present" by R. D. Underwood and on "Old Insurance Companies of Lake City" by C. L. Dempster
were presented at a meeting of the Lake Pepin Valley Historical Society at Lake City on October 4. On December 9 members of the society heard Miss Jennie Baker outline the history of the Lake City library and Miss Nellie Hammond review the story of the local public schools.

At the annual meeting of the Washington County Historical Society, held at Stillwater on October 7, Mrs. Fred Foster was elected president, Miss Mabel McCallum and Mrs. George Supple, vice presidents, Mr. E. L. Roney, secretary, and Miss Annie Connors, treasurer. The program included a review, by Mrs. George Goggin, of the history of Parent-Teacher work in Washington County. Dr. Grace Lee Nute, curator of manuscripts for the Minnesota Historical Society, was among the speakers at a meeting held at Marine on November 13. She took as her subject "Early French Explorers of the St. Croix Valley." The early history of Marine was reviewed by Miss Lena Peterson, and Mr. Frank Copas told of life in the pioneer lumber camps of the St. Croix Valley.

Judge Julius E. Haycraft of Fairmont addressed a meeting at St. James on December 5 which resulted in the organization of the Watonwan County Historical Society. Mr. George Hage of Madelia was elected president, and Mrs. Will Curtis, J. E. Setrum, and E. C. Farmer, all of St. James, were appointed to the positions of vice president, secretary, and treasurer, respectively. A list of the charter members of the society appears in the Watonwan County Plaindealer of St. James for December 12.

A program of historical work outlined for the 4-H clubs of Winona County might well be studied by other local groups in Minnesota. Members of these clubs are advised to write histories of their groups and to preserve annual records of their activities, to write township histories, to collect papers, manuscripts, and museum objects of historical interest, to interview old settlers, and the like. In all these projects they are advised to call upon local representatives of the Winona County Historical Society for assistance. It is further suggested that 4-H club members affiliate themselves with the county historical society through junior memberships at twenty-five cents a year.
Local History Items

A "History of Champlin" by the late Orange S. Miller appears in installments in the Anoka County Union from November 13 to December 18. Exploration and early settlement in the vicinity of the village, the organization of the township, early churches and schools, and the development of the milling industry are among the subjects touched upon. The substance of a paper on the history of Champlin, presented by Mrs. Alden S. Kimball at a recent meeting of the local women's club, appears in the Union for October 23.

The twenty-fifth anniversary of the building of the public library at Mapleton was commemorated on November 25. The history of the library was reviewed by U. G. Argetsinger, who drew upon the institution's manuscript record book for much of his material. He traced the story of library service in the community back to 1902, when an organization known as the Mapleton Reading and Rest Room had its origin. Mr. Argetsinger's interesting contribution to the cultural history of his community is published in full in the Blue Earth County Enterprise of Mapleton for November 29. In the same issue of the Enterprise appear some reminiscences of Mr. Joseph Wingen, a McPherson Township pioneer, who dictated to his daughter a story of immigration from Germany in 1852 and of pioneer experiences in Iowa and Minnesota.

A "History of Sibley Park" presented recently by the Reverend Rob Roy Hardin before members of the Mankato Garden Club is published in full in the Mankato Free Press for October 9. The writer reveals that the park site was used in the early eighties by the "Mankato Fair Association as a fair grounds, but chiefly as a training place for race horses," and that it was acquired by the city in 1887. The geology of the park region is outlined by D. L. Rose in the Free Press for November 27. Other articles of interest in recent issues of the same newspaper are accounts, by Frank Franciscus, of a Christmas dance held at old Fort Judson in 1862 and of the first settlement of Mankato in 1852, which appear on December 10 and 18.

Mr. Fred W. Johnson continues his interesting articles in the Brown County Journal of New Ulm about the history of Brown County with accounts of the district court in the region and with
sketches of local members of the bar (see ante, 16:493). In the issue of the Journal for November 8, the author begins the "first complete tabulation of Brown county officials ever published." Lists of auditors, treasurers, county attorneys, sheriffs, and other officers who served the county between 1856 and the present are here published. Lists of county board members, representatives in Congress, and representatives in the state legislature appear in later issues of the Journal.

Members of the Delton Township Farm Bureau listened to a talk by Jacob Liesenfeld on pioneer life at a meeting held at the town hall on October 16. A collection of objects illustrative of pioneer life, including an ox yoke, candle molds, some hand-woven linen, and an Indian tomahawk, was placed on display in connection with the meeting.

Early Christmas celebrations in Dodge County are recalled by a pioneer who settled near Wasioja in 1856, Mr. A. W. Crandall, in an interview reported in the Dodge Center Record of December 19. Two years after his family settled on the Minnesota frontier, Mr. Crandall reports, he attended a Christmas dinner at which "the main dish was roast pig, with real old England pudding and sauce."

The village of West Concord celebrated its fiftieth anniversary on October 11. A special anniversary edition of the West Concord Enterprise, issued on October 3, contains a detailed historical sketch of the community.

Mr. C. A. Rasmussen, president of the Goodhue County Historical Society, whose History of the City of Red Wing, Minnesota appeared in 1933 (see ante, 15:247), has now published a History of Goodhue County, Minnesota (Red Wing, 1935. 336 p.). In the new volume he brings together a mass of interesting information, which is presented, for the most part, in chronicle or antiquarian form. Among the features of the book may be mentioned essays on the geology and on the mounds of Goodhue County contributed by Professor E. W. Schmidt of St. Olaf College, and an account of the plant life of the area by Dr. C. O. Rosendahl of the University of Minnesota. There is a concise preliminary statement about Goodhue County, and sections are devoted to the era of exploration, to "Frontier
Settlements," to the development of the county, and to individual "City, Township and Village Histories," alphabetically arranged. The section on settlement includes brief discussions of pioneer life, the half-breed tract, the origins of geographical names in the county, and "Forgotten Cities." The author touches upon a variety of subjects, arranged in haphazard fashion, in a section which receives the heading "Goodhue County Grows Up." Here are to be found brief accounts of the war record of the county, of agriculture, of schools, churches, highways, the press, rural electrification, and postal service. Biographical sketches, many of which are accompanied by portraits, make up much of the remainder of the work. As in his earlier book, the author has made extensive use of newspaper files, and he has supplemented the material derived from these sources by interviewing old settlers, examining town records, and consulting numerous other types of early documents. Among the latter are the official proceedings of the county board, from which the author has assembled a chronicle of items. There is no general index, but at the beginning of the book appears an alphabetically arranged table of contents and an index to the biographical sketches.

The forty-sixth anniversary of the Minneapolis Public Library is noted in an illustrated article in the Minneapolis Journal for December 15. The development of the library from the Minneapolis Athenaeum, which was "privately established by a few stockholders in 1859," is traced.

A local post of the American Legion is sponsoring a local history essay contest among students in the senior high school of Greenway Township in Itasca County. The subject chosen is the history of the school district. Contestants are urged to use newspaper files, county records, and interviews with pioneers as sources of information.

An early venture in wheat growing in Le Sueur County is described in an article in the Lamberton News for December 26, which relates that John C. Evans, a Welsh settler at Sharon, raised a crop in 1854. It is asserted that he "planted eight acres of spring wheat with a good yield," which he sold for two dollars a bushel.

Installments of an "Early History of Lincoln County," compiled by A. E. Tasker, continue to appear in the Lake Benton News (see
Historical sketches of individual townships appear in the issues published from October 18 to December 27.

"Unusual Facts of History Pertaining to Hutchinson and McLeod County" is the title of a series of articles by Win V. Working that is appearing in the Hutchinson Leader. Some items about early agriculture and crops appear in the issues for October 11 and 25; the article for December 6 deals with the emigration of Bohemian settlers from McLeod County to Polk County, where they established a settlement known as Tabor.

Mr. Win V. Working's sketches of "Red River Valley History" continue to appear in the Thief River Falls Times (see ante, 16:251). Among the subjects of recent installments are the Riel rebellions, sawmills at Thief River Falls, early agriculture, and frontier hunting.

The fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the Crookston Daily Times was commemorated on November 21 in a special jubilee edition of that paper. The Times was established in 1885 as a weekly newspaper, and in 1891 the publication of a daily edition was begun. "Fifty years," reads a front-page editorial, "is not a long time in the history of American civilization, but it is a substantial period in the history of organized white settlement in this section of the Red River valley. In fact, a half century harks back to the very beginnings of the Crookston community and during that entire period The Times has been an important factor in the development of the city and contiguous territory." The eight-section, fifty-eight page issue consists of short historical essays on the Red River community and its neighbors, beginning with the geological and archaeological backgrounds of the region and the history of the Indians of the Red River Valley. One section is devoted to the story of the early settlement of Polk County during the seventies, and another tells the story of transportation from the day of the Red River oxcart and the "Anson North-up" — first steamboat on the Red River — to the early struggles for a railroad in the valley. Other subjects dealt with include schools, churches, libraries, hospitals, the fire department, the bar, medicine, and the press. In the preparation of this edition, the editors of the Times have had the assistance of Win V. Working, editor of the Northwest Pioneer, a historical quarterly published at Crookston.

A. J. L.
An interesting series of reminiscent articles by Morton Barrows appears under the title "Saint Paul—In Retrospect" in the issues from August to December of the *Ace*, the monthly publication of the St. Paul Athletic Club. In the opening article the writer presents his "first impressions" of St. Paul as it appeared when he first saw it on October 15, 1883. Although he found the city "extremely dirty," "everything entertained and delighted me," he writes. "There was not a foot of pavement in the entire city either of wooden blocks, concrete, or asphalt. The sidewalks were universally of plank and accommodated themselves to the varying undulations of the surface regardless of any established street level." The round of calls with which Mr. Barrows celebrated New Year's Day in 1884 is described in the second article. In some of the other installments he tells of his early experiences as a lawyer.

Some "Early New Years' Celebrations in St. Paul" are described by Mark Fitzpatrick in the installment of his "Historic Rambles in Gopher-Land" which appears in *Town Topics* (St. Paul) for December 27.

An article about the founding of the *Catholic Bulletin* of St. Paul on January 7, 1911, and about its subsequent history appears in its "25th Anniversary Edition," issued on December 21.

The fiftieth anniversary of the founding of St. Thomas College, St. Paul, was celebrated on October 7. A history of the college, prepared by the Reverend Edward Keenan, a member of the faculty, was published in connection with the anniversary.

Life on a Rice County farm in the sixties and seventies is described by Mrs. Olive I. H. Bliss in the opening chapters of an autobiography entitled *The Miles of Yesterday: The Life Story of a Minnesota Woman* (1935. 43 p.). The writer, who attended Carleton College in theeighties, presents some interesting comments on student life in that early Minnesota college. The narrative as a whole, surveying the varied experiences of the author and her family, is one of dignity and charm.

Miss Inga M. Billberg is the author of a number of articles relating to the "History of the Roseau Valley" that have been appearing in recent issues of the *Northern Minnesota Leader* of Roseau. Trad-
ing posts and trading operations in the Roseau region are described in articles published in the issues for October 24 and November 7. Some of the material for these accounts was obtained from the Hudson's Bay Company, which was active in this section of northern Minnesota as late as the early fifties of the last century. The first of a series of "Reminiscences of Old Pioneers" assembled and recorded by Miss Billberg appears in the Leader for November 21. Early settlers are urged to supply her with written or oral recollections and with their pictures. The latter are to be turned over to the Roseau County Historical Society for preservation. What seems to be the last of a series of sketches of "40 Years in Roseau Valley" by "Jake" Nelson appears in the Roseau Times-Region for November 28 (see ante, 16: 498).

Medford is described as the "oldest village" in Steele County in an article about its history which appears in the Owatonna Journal-Chronicle for December 20. A post office was established there in 1855 and the village was platted in the following year, according to this article, which gives some attention to local industries. The various counties in which the territory now organized as Steele County was included are noted in an article published in the Journal-Chronicle for December 27.

October 10, 11, and 12 were "Lumberjack Days" in Stillwater, marked by programs commemorating the city's supremacy in the lumber industry of the Northwest. Among the features of the celebration were the marking of a boom site on the St. Croix, log rolling contests, skiff races, and the singing of lumberjack songs. A "Lumberjack Pictorial Supplement," containing a large number of interesting photographs of lumbering activities on the St. Croix, appears with the Stillwater Post-Messenger for October 10. In addition to many interesting illustrations, the Stillwater Gazette for October 3 contains an account of the sawmills that have operated in the neighborhood of Stillwater since 1838.

An addition to the list of Minnesota county histories is a Condensed History of Wright County by C. A. French and Frank B. Lamson, recently published from the office of the Delano Eagle (228 p.). This work will be noticed at greater length in a future issue of the magazine.