REVIEWS OF BOOKS


Dean Ford, acting president of the University of Minnesota, completes this year a quarter of a century’s service as a leader in higher education. To celebrate that anniversary, the University of Minnesota Press has issued this stout volume, which contains a representative collection of his public speeches and of his writings. These papers, which combine the scholar’s insight and sobriety with an artist’s flexibility and grace, testify eloquently to Dean Ford’s right to be considered one of the great liberal thinkers and educators of our time.

One theme runs consistently through all his observations. Whether Dean Ford is considering a problem of education, a crisis in national life, a historical tendency, or a casual manifestation of manners, what he sees behind the immediate issue is the warning of a need to defend our liberties against the overt or disguised attacks that are forever being made upon them.

He sees education, of course, as one of the great forces for the preservation of the gains that civilization has made. “Historical scholarship,” he writes, “without the freedom to speak the truth about our national history would become here, as it has in many lands, a mute testimony of the decay of all scholarship and all liberty.” In answering the question: “Are Revolutions Necessary?” he says: “the only possibility of avoiding the physical conflict is to maintain a free arena for its moral equivalent in free forums for conflicting opinions in the press and the pulpit and, more important in a democracy, on the street corners and in the schools and colleges.” He warns those in places of high responsibility to remember that: “Ours is a breathless age of ceaseless change. A people that still burdens itself with outworn social dogmas cannot keep the pace.”

1 Mr. Gray’s review appeared originally in the St. Paul Dispatch for May 13, 1938. Ed.
torical papers, he invites his readers to reconsider the significant fact that the law which embodied the idea of universal military service and which created the political philosophy of Europe had its inevitable fulfillment in the World War. In a newspaper editorial he has the staunch courage of the unyielding and unintimidated liberal to say: "The Babbitts who preach the maintenance of a bigger and better status quo will bring the revolution they fear quicker than any Third International operating from Moscow."

*On and Off the Campus* is intended to acknowledge the debt to Dean Ford which the University of Minnesota and the American Historical Association feel toward him. But the twenty-five years that have passed since he became professor of history and dean of the graduate school at Minnesota cover only half the period during which he has been actively concerned with cultivating the soil of thought. It was fifty years ago, in 1888, at the age of fifteen, that he enrolled in Upper Iowa University and discovered in himself passions for teaching, for the study of history, for debate. By 1898 he had acquired a bachelor of letters degree at Wisconsin and served for three years as superintendent of public schools at Grand Rapids. At twenty-five, with all that experience behind him, he went to Berlin to study for his doctorate; taught himself Latin to satisfy the requirements for the degree; wrote a thesis which Dr. George Edgar Vincent, in his foreword to this book, calls "lucid, forceful, vivid," totally unlike the average work of scholarship which is "written in a style so ponderous, pedantic and soporific as to baffle caricature." By 1907 he was a full professor of history at Illinois, already enjoying the admiration of his colleagues. In the increasing years, that admiration and confidence have brought him all the most valued honors that can be offered to a man in his field.

His unique position has attracted to him unusual duties and distinctions. During the war, he served in Washington as chief of the division of civic and educational publications of the Committee on Public Information. It was his job to tell America what the war was about. He did it with such dignity and with so unwavering a respect for truth, justice, and accuracy that he came unscathed through the fire of hysteria which scorched, blistered, and destroyed so many reputations.

Anyone who has sat in private conversation with Dean Ford knows
with what distinguished courtesy he approaches any problem of social intercourse; with what wit he probes into the subtleties of any topic; with what forthrightness and simplicity he conducts debate. There is obviously no division in his character between public and private individuality; between executive and thinker; between host and historian. In his book the same traits are to be discovered that have always been admired by his associates, intimate and casual. Here is revealed the sensibility of understanding, the staunchness of courage, the excellence of temper that belong to the true liberal.

JAMES GRAY

ST. PAUL, MINNESOTA

Great Indian Chiefs: A Study of Indian Leaders in the Two Hundred Year Struggle to Stop the White Advance. By ALBERT BRITT. (New York, Whittlesey House, 1938. xi, 280 p. Illustrations. $2.50.)

This is a well-written and suggestive account of the personalities and the policies as well as the lives of eight celebrated leaders of the American Indians. Those discussed are King Philip, Joseph Brant, Pontiac, Tecumseh, Black Hawk, Sitting Bull, Captain Jack, and Chief Joseph. Others might have been included, had the book aimed at comprehensiveness: Geronimo, Satanta, Pushmataha, Osceola, for example. The story covers the period from 1675 to 1890. The author offers a preface, setting forth in general the tragedy of the Indian, explaining many aspects of the long struggle, the Indian's inability to accept white superiority or to believe in it, the white man's misconception of tribal organization, and the roots of the inevitable strife. This preface is scholarly, considered, and perhaps the best part of the book, though the author considers the Indian a vanishing race.

Throughout the book, the author is judicious and impartial, shunning dogmatism, and quoting freely from all the reliable sources, and some not so reliable. He makes no claim to firsthand acquaintance with the old-time Indian, or to understanding his racial or personal psychology. Critical, yet often sympathetic, he attempts the episodic and anecdotal method of portraiture. Though not strictly a popular work, the book is written in easy, lively, and graphic English. Probably the best compilation of its kind, with no more minor errors
than are to be expected in a compilation. Well illustrated. Bibliography. Endpaper maps. No index.

STANLEY VESTAL

UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA
NORMAN


In this little volume has been brought together a group of “America letters” covering a little more than a decade—from 1841 to 1853—of the period of early Swedish immigration. Though some were not written for publication, all appeared in newspapers in Sweden, and the editorial comments which have been included in the present edition add to the interest of the book.

The letters are delightfully varied and seem to have been selected very judiciously. They show clearly with what avidity the Swedish public swallowed all communications from America, as well as the difficulty prospective emigrants experienced in trying to get reliable information. They also give some glimpses of the cultural and religious interaction between America and Sweden. They are especially interesting, however, because of the light they throw on the reactions of the immigrants to American conditions—the speed with which the newcomers caught the spirit of the frontier, their interest in the politics of their new land, their admiration for things American on one side and on the other their sense of apartness. Most of the immigrants would no doubt have sympathized with the young man who did not want his brothers to “live with the Yankees,” and they were on their guard against the American who “competes with the mosquitoes to bleed the emigrant.” It is significant that the last three letters contain serious admonition against any hasty decision to emigrate.

As the main purpose of the writers was to help countrymen who were considering emigration, the letters contain much information about how to travel, how to avoid swindlers, what to bring along, liv-
ing conditions and prices, and the opportunities—or lack of them—open to newcomers. But there is also discussion of American politics and social conditions, as well as some intimations that all higher life was not lost under frontier conditions.

An American can learn much about his own country from the accounts of these late arrivals who give their fresh impression of things seen for the first time. This is especially true of the letters by Unonius, the longest and most significant in the collection and withal the most judicious and fair-minded.

In addition to the “America letters,” the volume contains one contribution by Unonius to the theological controversies among the Swedish pioneers. In a way it seems out of harmony with the rest of the collection and loses some of its value by being isolated from other documents of a like nature. However, it shows how even the objectivity of Unonius gave way to acrimony in the midst of sharp conflict, and it pictures one phase of the life and personality of this prominent Swedish pioneer.

Professor Stephenson’s introduction is centered upon Unonius. The author has drawn upon his wide knowledge of Swedish and Swedish-American history to condense within thirty-nine pages a mass of information. He discusses not only Unonius and his significant part in the Swedish emigration, but the whole emigration movement of his time. Much of the introduction is devoted to a rather detailed account of the church controversies in which Unonius became involved. The immigrants coming out of a state church found themselves in a fog with regard to church affairs out of which they fought their way to clarity with deep seriousness and tragic bitterness. The Swedes had much in common with other immigrant groups, and this gives a deeper significance to their history.

Karen Larsen
St. Olaf College
Northfield, Minnesota


Just a century after Peter Pond completed his first season in the Minnesota Valley, another Connecticut Yankee appeared in the vicin-
ity to trade, not in furs, but in ideas. His biography is set forth in this volume, which devotes three chapters to his career as a teacher in the "Land of Cloudy Waters." From the often crude Minnesota schools of the late nineteenth century, Livingston C. Lord emerged as a distinguished educator.

Miss McKinney pictures his life after 1874 in three southern Minnesota communities—Winnebago City, Mankato, and St. Peter—where he served successively as principal of a five-room school in which he "taught all the high school subjects," principal of a grammar school, and superintendent of schools. When he left the rough Faribault County village to go to Mankato, he entered a community that boasted a "state normal school, a Y.M.C.A. lecture course, a Philathea Literary Society, a Longfellow Club, and numerous churches." In St. Peter, where he went in 1879, his ability as a flute player made him a welcome addition to a "small orchestra of really distinguished musicians," including the well-known violinist, Maximilian Dick. "We didn't play anything but the best," Lord recalled in describing this group. "For one thing, we played a Haydn symphony." He "introduced music into the St. Peter schools in 1880, when it was seldom found in the smaller school system; and he taught it in some rooms himself."

Lord's cultural activities naturally receive considerable attention, but many other phases of life in southern Minnesota also are touched upon. The student of child life, for example, will be interested to learn that during an unusually severe winter, the Lord children did not "seem to mind the cold at all," because their mother dressed them for the climate. "They wear thick flannel shirts, drawers and petticoats. Canton flannel waists, knit woolen stockings and flannel dresses," she reports in a letter of January 16, 1881. With the extreme cold came one of the terrible epidemics of diphtheria that ravaged Minnesota in the early eighties. To ward off the disease, Mrs. Lord was "giving the children sulpho-carbolate of soda," and her husband disinfected the "schoolhouse every morning by throwing sulphur in the furnaces."

The third of the Minnesota chapters deals with the decade following 1888, when Lord served as principal of the normal school at Moorhead. Once more he went to live in a raw, new town. When he arrived at Moorhead, not a street had been paved, "already sa-
loons predominated in the business district, and the town was swarming with 'thrashers.'" In the normal school, which boasted "one of the most commodious and beautiful" buildings in the Northwest, twenty-nine students enrolled on the opening day. Ten years later there were registered in its various departments a total of 378 pupils, a "truly American mixture" from the small towns and the large farms of the Red River Valley. In 1899 Lord left the scene of his successful effort to provide "an education for the teachers of Minnesota's children" to accept a post at Charleston, Illinois.

Much of the text of this volume is based upon Lord's own writings and recollections and upon family letters and other manuscripts. The story of his life is more than a chapter in the history of American education—it is a valuable addition to the social history of the Middle West.

Bertha L. Heilbron

Minnesota Historical Society
St. Paul


The history of the forty-year-old towns of Hibbing, Virginia, and Eveleth has been traced by the author of this monograph to illustrate the cycles in the social life of mining towns. He describes a pioneering stage with a predominant masculine population, beginning to exploit the mineral resources. This is succeeded by a period in which a professional group settling in the towns demands more educational, recreational, and cultural opportunities, and the new program of taxation alters the relationship between townspeople and mining companies. A third phase is characterized by the leadership of these companies, and the end of the cycle for the mining industrial life is suggested in the estimated period before complete exhaustion of the ore. Efforts to develop tourist trade and agriculture suggest a program of substitute industries. The author has used local newspaper material to advantage in his historical sketch. Interesting details about Finnish and other immigrant labor groups are included.

Fictitious names are used for some of the persons discussed, and
in at least one instance a fictitious and an authentic name for two people in the same administration occur in the same sentence (p. 78). The manuscript thesis, of which this is a condensed publication, contains a key to all fictitious names, but without access to this the student of history is greatly handicapped in using the book. On page 27 the Hibbing Sentinel is called the Iron Village Sentinel, a mistake which apparently resulted from the use of the fictitious name in the original thesis.

This publication in photolithograph, with good chapter headings, subtitles, and summaries, makes a clear presentation of the results of the author’s research.

Evadene Burris Swanson

St. Paul, Minnesota


Here is a community history of unusual interest and merit. It covers the period from September, 1854, when the first settlers of the Dodge County township arrived, to 1937. The narrative is of value chiefly for its intimate glimpses of pioneer life as recalled by early residents. Here one may learn how the frontier homes and barns were built, how the houses were furnished, what the pioneers ate and wore, and how they kept house. Mrs. Bowen relates, for example, that:

Brooms were made of fine hazel brush. Some made rope by putting flax straws between boards and rubbing until the fiber separated enough to be twisted into a thick cord. Candles were the sole means of lighting the houses: each family had a candle-mold and made a supply of tallow candles whenever a beef creature was butchered. Soap was of home manufacture, made by leaching wood ashes and combining the lye with grease from meat scraps. . . . Soda was called saleratus, and was often made at home by burning corncobs carefully on the hearth and saving the ashes for cooking.

After the coming of the railroad, according to the writer, “yarn and cloth were available, but for some time men’s hats and coats were about the only readymade apparel in the markets.” Footwear was made by the local shoemaker, and “children’s new copper-toed shoes
and red-topped boots were generally made an inch or two longer than the foot, to allow for growth." Most of the food "was raised on the land." "Eggs were 5c a dozen and butter brought 3c a pound when offered in trade at the stores."

The editor reveals that Dr. Horace P. Porter "gave Claremont its first paper, the 'Wind Mill', which he had printed in Kasson at his own expense and distributed to callers at his office." The first issue of the *Wind Mill*, which is dated December, 1874, is reproduced in facsimile from an original in the possession of Mr. Lewis McMartin. This rare early newspaper is only one of the sources used in the preparation of this village history. Others listed by Mrs. Bowen include early maps, school and church records, county archives, pictures, and "reminiscences, in the form of letters, notes and interviews, furnished by present and former Claremont residents.

B. L. H.
MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY
NOTES

MR. LEROY G. DAVIS ("Some Frontier Words and Phrases") is a lawyer in Sleepy Eye, Minnesota. He has a deep interest in the history of pioneer life, particularly in its social aspects in southern Minnesota, where he has lived since 1866. Several years earlier his parents settled near Fond du Lac, Wisconsin, after migrating westward from New York state. Readers of this magazine will recall an article by Mr. Davis telling of a diphtheria epidemic in a Minnesota frontier community (ante, 15:434–438). His most recent publication is a volume of poetry entitled Sagas of the Old Northwest (1937). Dr. Charles W. Nichols ("Henry M. Nichols and Frontier Minnesota") concludes in this issue the story of his grandfather's career in the frontier West. Dr. Nichols was born in Belchertown, Massachusetts, where his grandfather taught in a district school in 1846–47 and his grandmother spent her girlhood. Dr. Nichols' youth was spent in the East, which he left in 1907 when he joined the faculty of the University of Minnesota. Thus he migrated to the same region and community that his grandparents went to in the 1850's. Mr. Frank E. Ross ("The Fur Trade of the Western Great Lakes Region") is historical research supervisor of the Indiana Historical Records Survey and research and editorial assistant for the Indiana Historical Bureau and the Indiana Historical Society in Indianapolis. He served as a member of the research staff of the Dictionary of American Biography from 1927 to 1933. Mr. Willis H. Miller ("The Biography of a Piano") is a student at St. Olaf College. He resides at Hudson, Wisconsin. The reviewers include Mr. James Gray of St. Paul, the distinguished literary critic and novelist; Stanley Vestal — Professor Walter S. Campbell of the University of Oklahoma — well-known authority on the American Indians and biographer of Sitting Bull; Professor Karen Larsen of St. Olaf College, the author of Laur. Larsen: Pioneer College President; Mrs. Gustav Swanson, a graduate student in the University of Minnesota; and Miss Bertha L. Heilbron, the assistant editor of this magazine.
That the summer tours of the Minnesota Historical Society combine "interestingly a pleasurable outing . . . with authoritative information regarding historical backgrounds of the regions visited" is the opinion of the writer of an editorial in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for May 2. "It is possible on such tours not only to emphasize various interesting incidents in the record of the past," he asserts, "but also to fix them firmly in mind by pointing out the very spots where they occurred. The local record and, in a sense, history in its entirety, take on the vigor of real life in such a presentation." He remarks that the summer tours "have been a most successful feature of the state historical society's annual programs," and he notes that a similar program is being advocated by Mr. Fred W. Johnson of New Ulm for the Brown County Historical Society. "With the wealth of interesting early lore which marks so many sections of Minnesota," the editorial concludes, "the idea seems to be one which will combine profit and pleasure for residents of any community."

Commenting on Cecil O. Monroe's survey of "The Rise of Baseball in Minnesota" chiefly after the Civil War, which appeared in the June issue of this magazine, Roy W. Swanson writes as follows in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for June 17:

The game was at least 20 years old by the time the war started. It will be recalled that last year Cooperstown, N. Y., celebrated the centennial of the national game it claims had its beginnings in that community.

But even though the Civil war may have interrupted the local development of the game, the great conflict itself was to serve as an impetus to baseball's spread and popularity. For baseball followed the armies. Some years ago Will Irwin searched the records for traces of baseball on the battlefields North and South, and found that the boys were ardent devotees of the game. The Army of the Potomac turned to baseball as a mainstay while on the Peninsula. Mr. Irwin notes a game at Fort Fisher, where in the middle of an inning the players had to take to their muskets. The boys in blue played ball in the camps and in the Confederate prisons. It was through the Army that interest, at first mainly Eastern, was spread through the other sections. Men of Ohio, Indiana, and Minnesota picked up the game from the men from New York, and men of Georgia and South Carolina watched and learned in Federal prisons. When the armies were demobilized in 1865, they brought home an enthusiasm for the game which was to result in a rapid and widespread growth of baseball clubs.

In Minnesota, as in other states, the game did not become popular until after the war, although teams did exist earlier in Nininger and St. Paul. Mr. Swanson concludes that "It is possible that the Civil
war truly ‘nationalized’ the game, for it is in this post-war period that we encounter references to baseball as the national sport.” Here, too, Minnesota ran true to form, for General Sibley predicted that baseball would become a national sport when he accepted the presidency of the Minnesota State Association of Base Ball Players in 1867.


The society lost ten active members by death in the quarter ending on June 30: Mrs. Ell Torrance of Minneapolis, April 10; Herbert C. Hotaling of Mapleton, April 15; Lars Backe of Thief River Falls, April 20; Gerald H. Burgess of Minneapolis, April 29; Mrs. John W. Daniels of Dellwood, White Bear Lake, June 5; Arthur R. Rogers of Minneapolis, June 9; Frederick R. Angell of St. Paul, June 10; Henry F. Douglas of Minneapolis, June 12; and George R. Martin of Minneapolis, June 20. George Bird Grinnell of New York City, a corresponding member, died on April 11.

“Immigration and the Westward Movement in Ballad and Song” was the subject of an address presented by the superintendent before the Montparnasse Club of St. Paul on April 11, the Augustana Historical Society and the American Scandinavian Foundation at Rock Island, Illinois, on May 5, the Wisconsin Education Association at Madison on May 7, and the Twin City Library Club in Minneapolis on May 16. He spoke on the Brown County Historical Society and the work of its president at a meeting of the society in New Ulm on April 20; on “The Community and the Pioneer Tradition” be-
before the twenty-fifth annual meeting of the League of Minnesota Municipalities, which was held at International Falls on June 9; on "Little Discoveries in a Great Past" at the College of St. Catherine in St. Paul on June 22; and at a Swedish tercentenary banquet at the Hotel Radisson in Minneapolis on June 4. As part of a program commemorating the centennial of the founding of St. Paul, Mr. Babcock gave talks on "Father Galtier and the Beginnings of St. Paul" before the Galtier Memorial Association and the Daughters of Isabella on April 4 and 25, and for pupils from St. Paul schools on May 2 and 5. He presented an "Illustrated Ramble through Minnesota History" at a meeting of the Junior Pioneer Association of St. Paul on June 8, spoke on the "Romance of Minnesota" before the ladies' auxiliary of the Railway Mail Clerks in Minneapolis on May 4, and discussed "Fort Snelling and Henry H. Sibley" before students from Michigan attending the University of Minnesota on June 30. Miss Ackermann spoke on "Pioneer Women" before the Prospect Park Study Club of Minneapolis on April 4, on "Cataloguing Manuscripts" before the cataloguer's section of the Twin City Library Club on May 10, and on the "Organization and Preservation of Manuscripts by the Minnesota Historical Society" before a section of the American Library Association meeting at Kansas City on June 16.

The superintendent was among the speakers who paid tribute to Dr. Guy Stanton Ford at a dinner given by the social science faculties of the University of Minnesota on May 9 in honor of his completion of twenty-five years of service as dean of the graduate school of the university. Dr. Blegen is the author of the preface to a volume of essays by Dean Ford — *On and Off the Campus* — which was published in honor of the occasion and presented to him at the dinner. The volume is reviewed ante, p. 328-330.

Mr. Babcock represented the society at a regional archaeological conference held at the University of Chicago on June 12. Representatives of six states who attended planned a co-operative study of the Indian tribes of the upper Mississippi Valley, and organized for that purpose the Upper Mississippi Valley Ethno-History Committee, with Dr. Fay Cooper-Cole of Chicago as chairman.
Accessions

Professor Charles W. Nichols of the University of Minnesota has presented the valuable collection of diaries and family papers which he used in preparing the articles on the career of his grandfather, Henry M. Nichols, that appear in the June and present issues of Minnesota History. As indicated in the earlier article, the papers are rich in material relating to the beginnings of the Northampton Colony in Minnesota in 1852 and 1853. Nichols was an advance agent of the colony, a home missionary on the Minnesota frontier, and a minister at St. Anthony, Stillwater, and Minneapolis—services that are recorded in detail in his diaries. These little leather-bound books cover the period, with the exception of the year 1850, from August, 1846, to the end of June, 1860, a few days before the diarist's death. His papers include the manuscripts of many of his sermons and the texts of numerous lectures delivered before lyceum, Y.M.C.A., and other pioneer cultural groups. There are scores of letters, both from members of the family in New England and from Nichols' associates in Minnesota, including Edward D. Neill. Fortunately the letters that Nichols, his wife, and their young son sent east from Minnesota, with their vivid pictures of pioneer life and social and cultural activity, were preserved at Belchertown, Massachusetts, and were added to the papers and diaries accumulated in the West. A daguerreotype of Nichols and an ambrotype of his wife, both taken at Stillwater in the fifties, are included in the gift.

Large collections of papers of the Harrington and Pendergast families of Hutchinson have been photographed for the society through the courtesy of Mrs. H. L. Merrill, Mrs. Sophie White, and Mrs. Edward F. Sitz of Hutchinson. Included are several thousand letters written to Lewis Harrington and his wife, Ellen Pendergast Harrington; and smaller groups written by William H. Harrington, a teacher at Excelsior in the fifties; Timothy H. Pendergast, a soldier in the Civil War; William W. Pendergast, state superintendent of public instruction from 1893 to 1899; Warren W. Pendergast, who took charge of the agricultural experiment station at Grand Rapids in 1896; and several members of the Hutchinson family. Most of the letters were written in the decades from 1850 to 1890. Copies
have been made also of diaries kept by John Harrington from 1838 to 1857 and by Solomon Pendergast from 1846 to 1869, of lists of personal possessions lost by the Pendergasts in 1862, when their house and school were destroyed by the Sioux, and of letters from John H. Stevens, William R. Marshall, and other prominent Minnesotans.

A reminiscent narrative by Julia A. Wood, who was widely known for her writings under the pseudonym of "Minnie Mary Lee," is the gift of her grandson, Mr. George C. Hineline of Minneapolis. Mrs. Wood and her husband, William H. Wood, settled at Sauk Rapids in 1851 and there they established a newspaper known as the New Era. Her reminiscences include accounts of the trip to Sauk Rapids and of the founding of the paper, and they record the impressions made upon this frontier newspaperwoman by traders, missionaries, and pioneers, such as William A. Aitken, Sherman Hall, Frederic Ayer, and William W. Warren. Mr. Hineline also has presented four letters written by his grandfather, and he has allowed the society to photograph a scrapbook, in his possession, of articles by Mrs. Wood reflecting her views on feminism, woman suffrage, and Catholicism.

Minnesota City, Wabasha, Homer, and St. Paul are among the Mississippi River towns of the fifties described in items of Minnesota interest gleaned from a file of the New York Tribune in the Boston Public Library and recently transcribed for the society. "If an engineer of the Imperial Polytechnic Institute had been employed to devise and design the most outlandish, awkward, broken-back, skrewd-angular plan for a town that human ingenuity could devise, he could not have succeeded so well as has been done" at St. Paul, according to a writer for the Tribune of December 24, 1852. A number of items that appeared in 1878 and 1879 in the Advance, a newspaper published at Chicago and New York, also have been copied.

A photostatic copy of a letter written by Isaac I. Stevens on June 10, 1853, while he was engaged in the Pacific railroad survey from Minnesota to the west coast is the gift of Mr. Charles M. Gates of the University of Washington. Stevens reports upon having a "most interesting companion in Pierre Boutineau, the great guide and voyageur of Minnesota. He is famous as a buffalo hunter, is a Chippewa
half Breed and surpasses all of his clan in intelligence, truthfulness." The original letter is owned by the University of Washington.

Five letters written in 1855, 1858, and 1859 by Benjamin Densmore have been added to his papers by the Misses Margaret and Frances Densmore of Red Wing (see ante, 16:469). In the earliest letter, Densmore notes that "There is a great rush for Minnesota this spring — every boat brings its load of emigrants — from two to five hundred in number," and he reports that "with the boats so crowded some among the passengers die of cholera on every trip." Among the subjects touched upon in the later letters are an excursion to St. Paul when the railroad from Milwaukee to La Crosse was completed, a proposed wagon route to the Fraser River gold mines, and a student exhibition at Hamline University in Red Wing.

Programs of concerts given by members of the Hutchinson family, the musicians who founded the town that bears their name, are included in a small collection of family papers which has been copied on film slides through the courtesy of Mr. W. S. Clay of Hutchinson. Among other items in the collection are bills and accounts kept by Asa B. Hutchinson in Massachusetts, Minnesota, and Colorado, his will, land deeds, tax receipts, and letters written by Abby Hutchinson Anderson and her husband, S. G. Anderson.

Fifteen letters written between 1858 and 1863 by Sylvanus B. Lowry, a St. Cloud pioneer, to his wife have been copied by the photographic process from the originals in the possession of Mrs. William Wacha of Stanton, Michigan. Some references to Minnesota politics and to Jane Grey Swisshelm, with whom Lowry clashed in 1858, occur in the letters.

A diary kept by John Young and seven letters that he wrote to his wife at Belle Plaine while he was serving as a member of Company A, Fourth Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, in the Civil War have been photographed from the originals in the possession of his grandson, Mr. Henry Young of Cokato.

Some twenty letters written between 1868 and 1872 by Irvin Grant while he was engaged as a telegraph operator at Le Roy in Mower County have been photographed for the society from the originals in the possession of Mrs. Nellie Christianson of St. Paul.
A volume of minutes of meetings of the Litchfield Cemetery Association and of its board of directors in the period between 1870 and 1890 has been photographed through the courtesy of the association.

A diary kept by Mr. Nimrod Barrick from 1871 to 1932, during much of which time he was engaged in farming near Greenleaf in Meeker County, has been photographed for the society through his courtesy. The entries include records of prices, wages, weather conditions, and the diarist’s activities as a member of the town and school boards.

A list of early settlers in Meeker County, giving information on the date and place of birth and the date of settlement, is included in the minute book of the Meeker County Old Settlers Association, which has been photographed for the society through the courtesy of Mr. H. I. Peterson of Litchfield. The association met at intervals from 1872 to 1932, when it was superseded by the Meeker County Historical Society.

Lists of marriages, baptisms, funerals, and church members, and minutes of meetings are to be found in a volume of parish records of the Congregational Church of Mapleton for the years from 1882 to 1902, presented through the courtesy of Mr. U. S. Argetsinger of Mapleton.

Three volumes of minutes of meetings of the Rover’s Club of Excelsior, a social club consisting of entire families, have been presented through the courtesy of Miss Nettie Rose of Excelsior. The records cover the years from 1903 to 1917 and from 1919 to 1935.

Letters and clippings relating to the musical career from 1904 to 1934 of Mrs. Beatrice Gjertsen Bessesen, a native of Minneapolis who was widely known as an operatic singer in Europe, are to be found in a scrapbook presented by her husband, Dr. William A. Bessesen of Minneapolis. Items about concerts given in the United States and about her activities in organizing conservatories of music in Albert Lea and Minneapolis are included. Dr. Bessesen also has presented several photographs of his wife and some of the costumes that she wore when singing operatic roles.
Some records of the Columbian Club of Minneapolis, consisting of two volumes of minutes of meetings for the years from 1921 to 1926, the constitution, bylaws, and lists of members, have been presented by the secretary, Mrs. A. O. Lindquist of Minneapolis.

Two volumes of records of the Minnesota Academy of Medicine, containing lists of members and proceedings for the years between 1923 and 1931—the latter clipped from the Journal-Lancet—have been presented by the organization through the courtesy of Miss Goldie Crever of Minneapolis. They supplement the minutes of meetings for the period between 1887 and 1923 previously in the society's possession.

The archaeological investigation conducted on the site of Fort Ridgely in 1936 and 1937 by the National Park Service in cooperation with the Minnesota department of conservation is the subject of a report prepared by G. Hubert Smith, senior foreman-archaeologist stationed at Fort Ridgely State Park, and received through his courtesy. It is accompanied by copies of the original plans for the fort, photographs of the excavations, and a list of objects found on the site.

A copy of a doctoral dissertation on "The Development of the Minnesota Road System," recently submitted at the University of Minnesota by Arthur J. Larsen, the society's newspaper librarian, has been presented by the author. Term papers on the "Hazelwood Republic" by Harriet C. Bell and on the "Czechs in Minnesota" by Ruth Nordberg, which were prepared at the University in 1937, are the gifts of the respective authors.

A "History of the Manufacture of Barbed Wire Fencing" by Arthur G. Warren has been photographed for the society through the courtesy of the Industrial Museum of the American Steel and Wire Company of Worcester, Massachusetts, which owns the original document. The author has compiled abstracts of the patents relating to barbed-wire fencing that are recorded in the museum's files.

A copy of a rare Minnesota newspaper, the American Railway Union of St. Paul for July, 1894, and several issues of the Minnesota Social Democratic Bulletin published in Minneapolis in 1900 are in-
cluded in a collection of labor and socialist papers received from Mr. George B. Leonard of Minneapolis.

A large number of Indian arrowheads, spearheads, and spades, and an ax, all of stone, have been added to the archaeological collection by Miss Anna Klint of Minneapolis. She has also presented a brass kettle.

A model of a logging sled made in 1884 is the gift of Mrs. Percy Lawrence of Minneapolis. Mr. Edmund Quickenden of St. Paul has presented a carpenter’s gauge used about 1850.

A mahogany sewing box with fittings of silver and mother-of-pearl dating from 1830, a wax doll dressed in the costume of Red Riding-hood, and articles of clothing worn in the decades from 1820 to 1860, including shawls, scarves, fichus, handkerchiefs, reticules, a woman’s silk dress, a child’s embroidered dress, and infants’ bonnets, have been presented by Miss F. M. Saunders of Brighton, England, through the courtesy of Mrs. C. H. Bigelow of St. Paul. A graduating dress of 1881, silk mitts, wedding slippers, gloves, fans, and hats are among the items from the estate of the late Mrs. George E. Tuttle received through the courtesy of Mr. Robert Tuttle of Minneapolis. A silk crazy quilt made in the 1880’s is the gift of Miss Frances Densmore of Red Wing. Miss Elizabeth Foss of Minneapolis has presented several items of china, including a large platter dated 1878 and a papboat.

A large oil portrait of the late Senator Frank B. Kellogg of St. Paul has been presented by Mrs. Kellogg. A view of the Chapel of St. Paul is the gift of Mrs. Cornelia Abbott of New York City; and a group picture of members of the faculty of Carleton College in 1888–90 has been received from Mr. R. B. Goodhue of Dennison.
NEWS AND COMMENT

At a meeting of the American Historical Association at Providence in 1936, Roy F. Nichols, Bernard DeVoto, John A. Krout, and A. M. Schlesinger participated in a discussion centering about the treatment of American social history in the History of American Life series. Under the editorship of William E. Lingelbach, who supplies the foreword, and with the “Remarks of the Chairman,” Ralph H. Gabriel, the comments of these speakers have now been published as a volume of essays, with the general title, Approaches to American Social History (New York, 1937). “A Political Historian Looks at Social History” is Professor Nichols’ contribution; Mr. DeVoto discusses the “Interrelations of History and Literature”; Professor Krout presents some “Reflections of a Social Historian”; and Professor Schlesinger gives “An Editor’s Second Thoughts” on the planning of the History of American Life. The volumes of this work, in Mr. DeVoto’s opinion, give a “more complexly integrated and therefore more usable account of America” than any previously written.

Dr. Solon J. Buck, director of publications for the National Archives and former superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society, is one of two official delegates from the United States attending the eighth International Congress of Historical Sciences meeting at Zurich, Switzerland, from August 28 to September 4. Dr. Buck also will serve as chairman of the American delegation to the fourteenth International Conference on Documentation at Oxford, England, from September 21 to 26. While he is abroad, Dr. Buck will visit archival establishments in Holland, Belgium, France, Switzerland, and England.

“Agriculture is more than an occupation; it is a way of living. Consequently, it deals with a host of topics relating to farm life.” Thus write Harry J. Carman and Rexford G. Tugwell in an essay on “The Significance of American Agricultural History,” which appears in the April issue of Agricultural History. Among the subjects in need of investigation suggested by these authors are “types
of houses and surroundings, furnishings, conveniences, rural manners, morals, social customs, and religious practices," amusements enjoyed in rural communities, the "country tavern and the county fair . . . rural health, farm organizations, rural education, and the farm press."

Dr. Albert E. Jenks continues his discussion of the "Minnesota man" in the *American Anthropologist* for April-June, where he publishes "A Reply to a Review by Dr. Ales Hrdlička" appearing in the *American Journal of Physical Anthropology*. Dr. Jenks defends the conclusions set forth in his recent volume on *Pleistocene Man in Minnesota* (see ante, 18:104).

The Michigan Historical Commission has published a brief manual for *County Historical Societies: Information Desired in Compiling County Histories* (12 p.). It also contains suggestions that should prove useful to the curators of local historical museums.

Reports prepared by Elaine Goodale while serving as a teacher on a Dakota Indian reservation in 1887 and 1888 and as supervisor of education among the Sioux in 1890 are reprinted from the *Reports* of the commissioner of Indian affairs in the *South Dakota Historical Review* for July, 1937. An autobiographical sketch of the writer of these reports, who became the wife of the distinguished Sioux physician and author, Dr. Charles Eastman, appears in the same issue.

An account of the activities of "Monseigneur Baraga" as a missionary among the Chippewa is contributed by Alexandre Dugré to the January issue of *Le Messager Canadien du Sacré-Coeur*.

An intimate picture of life at early American Fur Company posts in northern Minnesota is presented in some letters of Samuel Ashmun, Jr., and John H. Fairbank, clerks who left Montreal with the brigade of 1818, which appear under the title "With the American Fur Company in the Michilimackinac Dependencies, 1818–1822," in the May issue of the *Moorsfield Antiquarian*. Both men came from Champlain, New York, and both reported on their western experiences to a friend living in that place. For a time after their arrival at Mackinac they were not particularly busy, and it was then that Ashmun wrote: "as we have an extensive library at our Leisure I of course spend the greater part of my time in reading and so make myself quite at home." In August he went to his "wintering post"
in the Fond du Lac department. There, Ashmun "found Cows that afforded Butter through the winter a crop of nearly 200 Bushels of potatoes 1200 lbs of sugar which with the provision we carry" and the fish and game available provided excellent fare for the traders. Both Ashmun and Fairbank were at Sandy Lake in July, 1820, when members of the Cass expedition visited that post. "The object of this expedition is to find out the Source of the Mississippy and to make Some treaties with the Indian[s]," writes Fairbank. According to Ashmun, the explorers "appeared Much surprized after so long a voyage to find a fort and Conveniences in this wilderness but More particularly Chairs and Beds." Fairbank remained in the Northwest as a trader, married there, and died at the White Earth Reservation in 1880. His manuscript recollections, in the possession of the Minnesota Historical Society, are noted in the editorial comments that accompany the letters. There are grave limitations upon historical use that can be made of this newly published material, for the source from which the original letters were obtained and their present location are not mentioned. Of Northwest interest also is the journal of George M. McGill, which is published in the February issue of the Antiquarian. It appears under the title "From Allegheny to Lake Superior" and describes a journey made by a boy of fourteen in the summer of 1852. The diarist tells of his visit to Sault Ste. Marie, of a steamboat race in which the men "exerted themselves so much to keep ahead that they . . . not only burned up all their wood but half a barrel of good sweet butter," of passing near "Portage bay, which has never yet had the honor of having a Steamboat on its bosom," and of visiting the copper mines near Ontonogan.

Methods followed in "Supplying the Frontier Military Posts" of the West, particularly in the sixties, are discussed by Raymond L. Welty in an interesting article which appears in the Kansas Historical Quarterly for May. "The vast majority of the army stores were transported by contractors to the various depots established on the great routes of overland travel," writes Mr. Welty. "The contractors or freighting companies were the merchants of the overland trade" and their business reached its high point in the years from 1863 to 1866. The writer tells not only how supplies were transported, but he describes the rations and equipment with which the
The establishment of a military post in a region created a market for grains, horses, mules and cattle. Staples, however, were purchased in the large market cities such as St. Paul, Chicago, San Francisco, St. Louis and New Orleans.

"The greatest American archbishop I ever met was John Ireland of St. Paul," writes Shane Leslie in his *American Wonderland: Memories of Four Tours in the United States of America (1911-1935)* (London, 1936). "He had been a pioneer of the Northwest. He went there in a wagon with a wave of Irish immigrants, and lived to see it carved up by great railroads and dioceses."

Under the title *A Review and a Challenge*, the Norwegian-American Historical Association has issued an account of its history and achievements since its organization in 1925 (Northfield, 1938). Included are statements of the aims of the association and of its activities in the collecting of documents, the establishment of a museum, the promoting of research, and publication. Lists of its many publications and of articles and documents that have been included in its *Studies and Records* series appear in the appendix.

*The Story of Major David McKee, Founder of the Anti-Horse Thief Association* is reviewed by Hugh C. Gresham in a recently published pamphlet (1937. 80 p.). In February, 1864, a decade after McKee founded the association and only a few months after he organized the national order in Clark County, Missouri, a Waseca County branch was established at Wilton, Minnesota (see ante, 13: 153-157).

The "Census of 1838" taken in Wisconsin Territory in May of that year is the subject of a brief article by Marie Haefner in the May issue of the *Palimpsest*. "This count, completed just at the time Congress was creating the Territory of Iowa, afforded as accurate a measure of the rapidly changing population as was possible," according to the writer. She gives a list of twenty-one Iowa counties included in the enumeration, with figures on their populations. The "Fort Snelling community," in a district that was not yet open to settlement, is included in the figures for Clayton County. There, writes Miss Haefner, were listed sixty-two men and eight women.
“who were possibly not permanent residents, for the census taker noted that these seventy might be added ‘if required.’” Their votes, however, played a significant part in the territorial election of 1838, when W. W. Chapman was named “Delegate to Congress from Iowa Territory,” according to an article by Kenneth E. Colton in the *Annals of Iowa* for April. The final result of the election, which was held on September 10, 1838, was “uncertain for a long time, due to the slow returns from St. Peter’s precinct,” writes Mr. Colton. “When Chapman was officially declared the winner, sometime in October, his trip to Washington was necessarily a hasty one.”

The State Historical Society of Iowa has published, under the title *I Am a Man: The Indian Black Hawk*, Cyrenus Cole’s sympathetic biography of the great Sauk chief (Iowa City, 1938. 312 p.). The volume marks the centennial of the death of Black Hawk, whose exploits are closely linked with the story of the territory created in 1838.

The “Illinois State Archives Building” is the subject of an article by Margaret C. Norton in the *American Archivist* for April. Methods of “Manuscript Repair in European Archives” in France, Belgium, the Netherlands, Germany, Austria, and Italy are described by L. Herman Smith.

Minnesota shares with its neighbor to the east several of the scenic assets described by Fred L. Holmes in his volume entitled *Alluring Wisconsin: The Historic Glamor and Natural Loveliness of an American Commonwealth* (Milwaukee, 1937. 480 p.). Entire chapters are devoted to St. Croix Falls and Interstate Park, “Milestones of the Gods,” and the Mississippi, “Fringe of Majesty.” As the title indicates, the author exploits both the scenic features and historic backgrounds of the state. Elaborate illustrations add greatly to the interest of the volume, which should prove a valuable guide for tourists.

How “State Boundaries in the Old Northwest” were established between 1787 and 1848 is explained by Joseph Schafer in the *Wisconsin Magazine of History* for March. “In fixing Wisconsin’s northwestern boundary,” he writes, “congress . . . violated article V of the ordinance [of 1787] which provides that ‘not less than three nor more than five’ states shall be formed in the Northwest territory.
It actually formed five and left enough territory over to make another—almost." An excellent map showing the "Northwestern States as Planned and as They Are" accompanies Dr. Schafer's article.

Many Minnesota connections are brought out in a *History of Pierce County, Wisconsin*, which is bounded on the west by the Mississippi River and Lake Pepin (1937. 92 p.). Most of the explorers mentioned went west and north into the Minnesota country; the steamboats that transported early settlers to Pierce County were bound for St. Paul; and river towns, such as Prescott and Maiden Rock, look out across the water on the Minnesota scene. The narrative, which is designed for use in the common schools of the county, includes many useful suggestions for teachers.

The legal and juridical problems which confronted the Canadian merchants in their exploitation of the western fur trade are clearly analyzed by Dr. Hilda M. Neatby in *The Administration of Justice under the Quebec Act*, recently published by the University of Minnesota Press (1937. 383 p.). Many elements in the situation are considered. The system of courts is described, and mention is made of the steps taken to provide for the settlement of disputes arising in sparsely settled regions on the St. Lawrence River and the Great Lakes. The uncertainties attending the adaptation of substantive and procedural law derived from French and British sources are explained, and illustrated with well-chosen examples. The conditions under which the courts operated are set forth with especial reference to the necessity of depending upon untrained men, and the effects of political dissensions which had their roots in diverse economic interests and in the conflicting loyalties of "old subjects" and French Canadians. The author's conclusion is that while the difficulties of administering in Canada were great, the Quebec Act provided a workable compromise on the basis of which a satisfactory legal system might have been developed. It is her view that political rivalries largely explain the failure of responsible officials to inaugurate the needed reforms.

Readers of Professor Turner's essay on "The Rise and Fall of New France," which was reprinted in the issue of this magazine for December, 1937, will be interested in Professor Stephen Leacock's
interpretation of “French Canada” in the May number of Globe. He contends that since the British conquest of Canada, the French who live there have enjoyed what he describes as a “revenge of the cradle.” Among the British, “immigration made the population.” But the “block of 70,000” French in Canada at the time of the conquest has grown by natural increase “to a sort of ‘nation,’ without boundaries or outlines, of over four million people.” Professor Leacock points out that for a time “immigration growth of the English hemmed and choked French Canada. It took from it the Northwest where the French half-breeds (métis) were the first comers. French St. Boniface was a pious village of 600 souls when Winnipeg was a sort of Shacktown where you could buy drinks. French was the language, with the Scotch of Hudson’s Bay as Lords of the manor. All that passed. Immigrants flooded in. The rebellion of 1885 was, in part, a last despairing protest.” The writer predicts, however, that “now things may change,” for “immigration has stopped dead and the cradle goes right on.”

In a study of “The Hudson’s Bay Company and Anglo-American Military Rivalries during the Oregon Dispute,” which appears in the Canadian Historical Review for September, 1937, C. P. Stacey gives considerable attention to American activity in the Minnesota country. Captain Edwin V. Sumner’s meeting with the Red River half-breeds in 1845, the establishment of an American Fur Company post at Pembina, and the presence of United States troops at Fort Snelling and later at Fort Ripley were among the causes of alarm on the part of officers of the Hudson’s Bay Company, according to the writer. He presents evidence to show that in October, 1845, Sir George Simpson recommended the establishment of a military post in the Red River settlement, “as a means of protection against the inhabitants of the Settlement.” It was believed that the “appearance of the blue-coated dragoons” under Sumner near the international boundary “was indicative of the steadily increasing strength of hostile influences which henceforth would be constantly at work undermining the company’s prestige and encouraging discontented elements in the population of its territories.”

The historic backgrounds of Fort William were exploited by Mr. J. P. Bertrand of Port Arthur in an address presented before a meet-
The speaker asserted that "Fort William is not making the most of its historical background," and he "suggested that part of the old fort here be rebuilt," and that the "name of Syndicate avenue be changed to La Verendrye avenue."

**GENERAL MINNESOTA ITEMS**

Under the direction of Mr. Richard R. Sackett, an archaeologist employed by the Minnesota division of state parks, workers engaged in a WPA project have been excavating on the site of the home of Joseph R. Brown near Renville. The house was burned by the Indians in the Sioux Outbreak of 1862. From the site were removed tons of earth, granite blocks, handmade brick, lime, and mortar, and beneath this debris were found the charred remains of the furnishings of the frontier mansion. Among the objects recovered are the metal parts of a grand piano, fragments of a sewing machine, knives, forks, spoons, bits of china and glassware, parts of lamps, coil springs from upholstered furniture, parts of three stoves, kitchen utensils, and flat-irons. It is interesting to note that many of the articles found are included in an inventory of "property destroyed by the Indians," prepared by Mrs. Brown shortly after the outbreak. The original of this document is among the Brown Papers in the possession of the Minnesota Historical Society. Plans are now under way for reconstructing the Brown mansion. The site has been made a state park, and the rebuilt house will be used as a local historical museum.

In a concise review of *Historic Fort Snelling*, Major John R. Holt traces the story of the Minnesota post back to the selection of the site by Lieutenant Pike, its founding by Colonel Leavenworth, and its building under Colonel Snelling (1938. 39 p.). Among the subjects touched upon are Indian treaties at the fort, the fur trade of the vicinity, the pioneer missionaries, early settlers on the reservation, the sale of the reservation, the reoccupation of the fort, and regiments that have been stationed there. The author gives special attention to several characters who figured in the history of the post, including Major Lawrence Taliaferro, Dr. Edward Purcell, Dred Scott, and Count Zeppelin. The booklet is a useful guide for tourists who visit the military post at the mouth of the Minnesota.
The centennial of the arrival at Fort Snelling of its first United
States army chaplain, the Reverend Ezekiel G. Gear, was marked
with special services at the fort chapel on June 5. The program com­
memorated also the tenth anniversary of the dedication of the chapel.

An address presented by Judge Bert Fesler before the Minnesota
Arrowhead Association, meeting in Duluth on May 6, has been pub­
lished in pamphlet form under the title, The Arrowhead Country
before It Became Famous (16 p.). He tells of the Indians of the
region, of French, British, and American explorers and traders, of
early maps on which the district was shown, and of the boundary
controversies in which it was involved. He also suggests some books
for the general reader relating to the region.

Under the title “Gold! Then a Rush to Vermilion,” Nathan
Cohen contributes to the Duluth News-Tribune of April 3 a feature
article about the Vermilion Lake gold rush of 1866–67. He points
out that many of the men who failed to find gold in the sixties lived
to see “Vermilion’s gold trail become the iron road.” Some “Indian
Romances” of traders, missionaries, and other frontiersmen in the
Lake Superior country are the subject of a feature article in the same
paper for May 15. Several of Eastman Johnson’s pictures of Indian
women at Fond du Lac are reproduced with the article from originals
in the possession of the St. Louis County Historical Society.

The history of the nine-foot channel on the Mississippi below the
Falls of St. Anthony is concisely presented in the May issue of Old
Man River, a publication of the United States engineer office at St.
Paul. The story of the adoption of the nine-foot channel is outlined,
dams completed and projected in the St. Paul district are listed and
described, and pictures of “completed projects” are included. In
the April number of Old Man River, the “Diary of a 1870 Road
Builder,” George R. Stuntz, originally published in the Report of
the United States chief of engineers for 1870, appears in a version
condensed by M. H. Berg. Stuntz kept his record while engaged in
building a road from Duluth to Lake Vermilion in the summer of
1869. Conditions existing “On the River Eighty Years Ago” are
described by L. E. Wood in the June number of the same publication.
An interesting item included here is a list of “rates in effect between
Galena and St. Paul” in June, 1856.
A pageant centering about the Viking story told in the inscription on the Kensington rune stone was presented at Alexandria from June 22 to 25. "The Story of the Kensington Runestone" is the subject of a detailed and interesting article by Constant Larson, which appears in the Alexandria Citizen-News for June 9 and 16.

The Swedish-American tercentenary was marked in Minnesota on July 17 and 18, when Crown Prince Gustaf Adolph visited the Twin Cities. The principal celebration took place at the state fair grounds in St. Paul on the afternoon on July 17, when the crown prince addressed an audience of about sixty thousand people. Special exhibits of books, newspapers, and manuscripts relating to the history of the Swedes in the Northwest were placed on display in Twin City libraries, including that of the Minnesota Historical Society.

The fiftieth anniversary of the law school of the University of Minnesota was the occasion for the publication of a survey of its history in Minnesota Chats, a university publication, for June 9. The school was opened in the fall of 1888 with sixty-seven students registered. In the same issue of Minnesota Chats are noted the twenty-fifth anniversaries of the founding of the League of Minnesota Municipalities and of the university extension division, and some information about the history of each is given.

The First Twenty-five Years of the Northwest Experiment Station, Duluth are reviewed by M. J. Thompson in a pamphlet issued by this branch of the University of Minnesota in April, 1938 (12 p.). The writer undertakes "to make a permanent record of facts and pictures dealing with the early history of the institution; to tell the story of the transition of the physical plant from forest to farm and campus; to sketch its contribution to its constituent rural population in the first quarter century of operation." The period covered is from 1913 to 1938.

The Saga of a Commercial Educator is the autobiography of J. R. Brandrup, who has been connected with a Mankato business college since 1891 (142 p.). The author, who prepared this narrative for his children, emigrated from Denmark in 1885 and spent several years on Red River Valley farms near Breckenridge. Eventually he attended a business school in Minneapolis, taught commercial subjects
at Luther Academy in Albert Lea, and helped to open the Northwestern College of Commerce at Mankato, of which he became the owner. In his little book, Mr. Brandrup contributes an unusual chapter to the history of education in the Northwest.

For an essay on "Benevolent Societies in Minnesota," the first prize in an annual contest conducted at Hamline University was awarded this year to John A. Johnson. He includes comments on early benevolent societies in the state and on legislation regulating them. His essay appears in the April issue of the Hamline Piper.

Dr. Richard Bardon's "Survey of Pioneer Members of the St. Louis County Medical Society" is published in the April and May numbers of Minnesota Medicine as part of the "History of Medicine in Minnesota" which has been appearing in that magazine since January (see ante, p. 225). In the May issue also appears the opening installment of Dr. Owen W. Parker's review of "Pioneer Physicians of the Vermilion and Missabe Ranges," which is continued in the June number.


The contributions to Minnesota horticulture of D. A. Robertson, L. M. Ford, Jonathan T. Grimes, Peter Gideon, and others are stressed by H. L. Harris in a short article on "Apples in State History," which appears in the Minneapolis Journal for May 22. Colonel Robertson, according to Mr. Harris, "was instrumental in organizing a Legislative Farmers Club which at two of its weekly meetings in February, 1860, discussed the question, 'Can Minnesota Grow Apples?'" He proved that it could in 1864, when "he planted a large demonstration orchard, located near what is now
Summit and Snelling avenues in St. Paul.” Mr. Harris asserts that Minnesota “had the first state-owned fruit breeding experiment station in the country.”

“The oldest wood pulp manufacturer in the Arrowhead country is the Northwest Paper company of Cloquet and Brainerd, founded in 1898 as a ground wood pulp and newsprint mill,” according to Hanford F. Cox, who contributes an account of the “Wood Pulp Industry in Minnesota” to the *Daily Journal* of International Falls for April 8. This survey of the past, present, and future of an important Minnesota industry was originally prepared as a radio address.

A chain of men’s clothing stores known as the Leuthold-St. Clair stores is the subject of a historical sketch in the *Spring Valley Tribune* for May 12. According to this account, the first of these stores was founded at Kasson by Jacob Leuthold, a Swiss pioneer, in May, 1878, and others were established at Spring Valley, Kenyon, Waseca, Owatonna, and in communities in Iowa and Wisconsin in the years that followed. A list of these stores, with the dates of their founding, appears with the article.

A study of *Population Trends in Minnesota and What They Mean* has been published by the Minnesota Institute of Governmental Research as number 8 of the *State Governmental Research Bulletins* (1938. 36 p.). By means of charts and maps the increase or decrease of population in Minnesota counties from 1920 to 1930, the migration of people into or out of Minnesota, and similar trends are graphically illustrated.

**Local Historical Societies**

The old Hubbard mansion in Mankato has been purchased by the Blue Earth County Historical Society, which turned over the deed to the city with the understanding that the house would be maintained as a museum for the society. Early in June, Mr. Horace W. Roberts, president of the society, appointed a committee on archives and manuscripts to supervise the display of the society’s collections in the new museum. At its April meeting, the society received from the Art History Club of Mankato a gift of twenty-five dollars to be used for some project to be designated by the club.
Judge Julius E. Haycraft of Fairmont, Dr. Theodore C. Blegen of the Minnesota Historical Society, and Mayor Albert D. Flor of New Ulm were among the speakers at a dinner meeting of the Brown County Historical Society on April 20, which was attended by more than three hundred and fifty people. All joined in praising the work accomplished by the local society under the leadership of Mr. Fred W. Johnson, its president. Mr. Flor told how New Ulm obtained the handsome new library and museum building in which are housed the "priceless historical data collected and compiled by Mr. Johnson," Judge Haycraft reviewed the story of Minnesota's winning of statehood, and Mr. Blegen described the objectives and achievements of community historical organization in Minnesota. Mr. Johnson presided and responded to the addresses, reviewing the development of the Brown County society.

The museum of the Chippewa Region Historical Society at Cass Lake has been reopened in the local armory, with Mr. F. T. Gustavson as curator. Plans are under way at Cass Lake for the building of a log cabin in which the society's museum, manuscript, and library collections can be adequately housed.

"During housecleaning time, housewives are urged to call the Society before discarding any articles." This appeal is published by the Chippewa County Historical Society in the Montevideo News for April 29. It appears in an article describing the museum collection of the local society and some of its recent exhibits. On the evenings of June 22 and 24 the museum rooms were open, and a special invitation to view the exhibits was extended to the people of Clara City.

Miss Ella Hawkinson of the Moorhead State Teachers College was re-elected president of the Clay County Historical Society at a meeting held at Moorhead on May 28. Mr. A. W. Bowman was named vice-president, Mrs. S. E. Rice, secretary, and Mr. S. G. Bridges, treasurer. Plans for enlarging the society's museum were discussed at the meeting.

The Cook County Historical Society and the Thunder Bay Historical Society held a joint meeting at Grand Portage on June 12. Among those who participated in the program were the presidents of
the organizations, the Reverend E. F. Lindquist and Mr. Carson F. Piper.

"The Goodhue County Historical Society is doing splendid work in preserving for the future the traditions, history and reminders and relics in a multitude of interesting forms," reads an editorial in the Red Wing Daily Republican for May 23. Since a room in the new courthouse was made available for the use of the society, "enthusiasm for the work has increased and the valuable collection of documents and other reminders of days gone by has accumulated." The writer suggests the need of following library models in organizing and conducting the institution for community service.

The Grant County Historical Society was organized at a meeting held at Elbow Lake on May 28. Mr. C. H. Phinney of Herman was named president; Dr. F. W. Powers of Barrett, vice-president; Mr. W. H. Goetzinger of Elbow Lake, secretary; and Mrs. J. H. Johnson of Elbow Lake, treasurer. The county commissioners will be asked to provide quarters for the society. For the present, items presented to the new organization will be housed in the Elbow Lake library.

The Hennepin County Historical Society has established temporary headquarters in the Oak Hill School at St. Louis Park, with Mr. Edward A. Blomfield in charge. Articles for display in a museum which the society plans to establish are being assembled at this place. The officers of the society, which was recently reorganized, are Mr. Robert E. Scott, county superintendent of schools, St. Louis Park, president; Mr. Dana F. Frear, Lake Minnetonka, vice-president; Miss Ruth Thompson, Minneapolis, secretary; and Mr. Jefferson Jones, Hopkins, treasurer.

The story of a "Vanished Industry" in Morrison County is recalled by Mr. Val E. Kasparek of the local historical society in the Little Falls Herald for May 6. He presents an account of logging and lumbering in the district, giving special attention to the lumber companies that have operated in the county. In the Herald for June 3, the same writer describes, under the title "Morrison County Pioneers," some of the characteristics of frontier life in the region. He includes a list of "Early Settlers or Homesteaders" from 1847 to 1864.
The feasibility of erecting a building for the use of the Murray County Historical Society was discussed at a meeting held at Slayton on May 16. A committee was appointed to visit communities having historical museums and to formulate suggestions for a local structure.

The need for suitable quarters in which to house its collections is being stressed by the Nobles County Historical Society, according to an article in the Worthington Globe for May 17. Some of the items recently presented to the society are listed, and the fact that they cannot be displayed is noted.

A monument marking the site of Leaf City was unveiled at the summer meeting of the Otter Tail County Historical Society, which was held at Leaf Lake on June 26. The monument—a gift to the society from the Westlund Monument Company of Fergus Falls—bears the following inscription: "Leaf City. Trading post on the Red River Trail in 1857 and United States Post Office 1857 to 1860. The settlement was broken up by the Sioux outbreak of 1862. Dedicated by Otter Tail County Historical Society, June 26, 1938."

Among the speakers participating in the program were Judge Anton Thompson, president of the society, who presided and dedicated the monument; the Reverend James Mohm, who spoke on the early history of Maine Township; and Mrs. Rhoda Hunter, who presented a reminiscent account of her experiences as the wife of a pioneer Otter Tail County farmer. Mrs. Hunter's paper appears in the Fergus Falls Daily Journal of June 27.

With the aid of a local WPA project, the Pope County Historical Society is assembling biographies of pioneers, translating records of pioneer Norwegian settlement in the county, gathering information about the Red River and Wadsworth trails in the vicinity, and making a survey of Indian mounds, village sites, and burial grounds in the county. In the vicinity of Glenwood, more than thirty mounds have been located, according to an announcement in the Pope County Tribune for May 19.

"It will be a bad day for historians when country correspondents cease their work" of contributing items to local newspapers said Professor Albert Britt of Carleton College in an address on "History Begins at Home" presented at a meeting of the Rice County Historical Society at Northfield on May 23. Dr. Britt declared that the
columns written by local correspondents "reveal more of the intimate life of the people than do the headlined leads." "The little items are what reveal the humanness of the past," he said. At the same meeting, early Episcopal missions and missionaries in Rice County were discussed by Mr. F. E. Jenkins, headmaster of St. James School, Faribault.

At a meeting of the Roseau County Historical Society at Roseau on June 10, Mr. C. B. Dahlquist was elected president, Mr. G. J. Brenden, vice-president, Mr. J. Snustad, secretary, and Mr. Carl Listug, treasurer.

A number of tools used in pioneer days, pictures, and other articles illustrative of frontier life, from a collection of the Stearns County Historical Society, were placed on display in a store window at Albany late in April. The Albany Enterprise of April 21 called attention to the exhibit and asked people of the community who own items of historical interest to present them to the society.

Books, manuscripts, and museum objects assembled by the Waseca County Historical Society are being stored in a vault in the basement of the courthouse until permanent quarters are made available for the organization. Mr. Dana Wobschall was named custodian of the society’s collections at a meeting held at Waseca on April 2.

A program centering about the history of St. James was presented before the Watonwan County Historical Society, meeting in St. James, on April 5. A collection of pictures of pioneer settlers and of early scenes and buildings in St. James was displayed at the meeting. The program included papers on the "Early History of St. James" by J. E. Setrum, on the "Newspapers of St. James" by Mrs. Will Curtis, on the public schools of the community by Carl Bishop, and on the local Methodist, Episcopal, Catholic, Presbyterian, Augustana Lutheran, and Norwegian Lutheran churches. All the officers of the society—Mr. George Hage, president, Mrs. Curtis, vice-president, Mr. Setrum, secretary, and Mr. E. C. Farmer, treasurer—were re-elected. Mrs. Curtis' account of local newspaper history appears in the Watonwan County Plaindealer of St. James for April 7, and the papers prepared by Mr. Setrum and Mr. Bishop are published in the issues of the same newspaper for April 14 and 21.
The Gazette-Telegram of Breckenridge is contributing a valuable service to the Wilkin County Historical Society by publishing from time to time lists of recent accessions with the names of the donors. Judging from the long and interesting lists of items of historical significance that appear in the issues for April 21, May 12, and June 9, the society must be accumulating a museum collection of unusual interest and value. Appeals for additional contributions and invitations to view the society's exhibits usually appear with the announcements of accessions.

LOCAL HISTORY ITEMS

Residents of Marine have devoted much time and energy during the past summer to celebrating the centennial of their community. A "Centennial House," furnished in the style of the fifties of the last century, was opened to the public on June 1. Most of the furnishings, including floor coverings and curtains, were made in the century-old town or were taken there at an early date. The corner cabinets in the living room, for example, are the work of a local cabinetmaker, as are some of the chests and beds. Woven carpets of raw wool that cover many of the floors were made in the homes of Swedish pioneers. The kitchen stove was cast in the early fifties and was taken to Marine by steamboat. Implements used in carding, spinning, and weaving wool are on display in the basement. The spacious "Centennial House" is typical of the homes occupied by prosperous Minnesota pioneers after they had established themselves in the West. A home of the type built by pioneer farmers during the first years of settlement also is to be seen in Marine. This is a two-room log cabin, originally erected on a farm about a mile from the village. It has been removed to the main street, where it has been partially restored and furnished. Open for inspection also during the celebration is a stone building erected in 1872 and used as a town hall and jail. It now houses a collection of photographs of old Marine and its pioneer inhabitants. The centennial exhibits at Marine will be open to the public until October 1. A special community celebration, in which the pioneer settlers still living in the community were honored, took place from July 2 to 4. A feature of the celebration was a parade on July 4, consisting of floats and marching groups each representing an event in the history of the village.
The history of the Carr Lake Farmers Club of Beltrami County, which was read by Walt Fenske on the occasion of its twenty-fifth anniversary, is published in the *Bemidji Daily Pioneer* for June 15. The officers of the club are listed and some of the co-operative enterprises in which it has participated are noted.

A valuable record of local activity during fifty years is to be found in the “Golden Anniversary” edition of the *Blue Earth County Enterprise*, published on June 2. The paper was established on June 1, 1888, by the late Herbert C. Hotaling, and much biographical information about this prominent Minnesota journalist is to be found in the issue, which was planned as a tribute to his memory. Among the interesting items included in the issue is a list of the original subscribers of the *Enterprise*, taken from Hotaling’s record book.

The text of the constitution of the Carlton County Agricultural Society, which was organized in 1872, is included by James Dunphy in the installment for April 7 of his autobiographical narrative, “Reminiscing through My Years in Carlton County,” which has been appearing in the *Carlton County Vidette*. The final installment appears in the issue of April 21.

Descendants of the Scotch settlers who established homes in Pilot Grove Township, Faribault County, in the late fifties, met on June 17 at Blue Earth to commemorate the eightieth anniversary of the arrival of their ancestors in the vicinity. An account of the westward journey of David Ogilvie, one of the settlers, from a settlement in eastern Wisconsin appears in the *Blue Earth Post* of June 16.

Early Grange organizations in Freeborn County are the subject of an article by W. E. Thompson in the *Albert Lea Evening Tribune* for April 14. The officers of the first Grange established in the county, that organized in Alden Township in March, 1873, and of many later Granges are listed. An account is included of a picnic held by members of the organization in 1882 at which papers on “Onion Culture,” “Potato Culture,” and “Market Gardening” were presented.

In a pageant entitled “Red Wing’s Heritage,” the history of the Mississippi River city was reviewed and its centennial was commemorated on June 23, 24, and 25. Among the scenes depicted were the
lodge of the Sioux chief for whom the city is named, the arrival of
the first missionaries, the first election, the coming of the railroad,
and the community's participation in the Civil War. Special illus­
trated centennial editions of the Red Wing Daily Republican and the
Red Wing Daily Eagle, issued on June 21, contain articles on explora­
tors and missionaries who visited the site of the present city, and a
chronological list of important events in the history of Red Wing from
1853 to 1910.

"The Autobiography of Loren O. Kirk," a Minneapolis architect
who was connected with the office of Edwin H. Hewitt from 1906 to
1936, has been issued by his heirs in multigraphed form (1936. 57
p.). Kirk settled in Minneapolis in 1905 and attended the Minne­
apolis School of Fine Arts. His narrative contains many interesting
comments not only about some of the city's leading architects, but
about such local artists and sculptors as Robert Koehler and John K.
Daniels.

The founding of the Minnetonka Yacht Club in 1882 and the
history of yachting on Lake Minnetonka are recalled by Mr. Ward
C. Burton in an interview published in the Minnetonka Herald of
Wayzata for June 16. In the eighties, Mr. Burton records, yachts
were known as "sandbaggers," from "the fact that the crew used
sandbags as shifting ballast. The average sandbagger has about a 20
ft. over all length, was 10 ft. wide, and carried 1000 sq. ft. of sail."

An appeal to the people of Kanabec County to preserve "photo­
graphs, handwritten manuscripts, tools, utensils, handmade articles,"
and the like, that are "of no particular value now," but "will be
considered priceless mementos one hundred years from now" is made
by S. B. Molander in the final installment of a narrative entitled
"When Kanabec County Was Young," in the Kanabec County Pro­
gressive of Mora for April 14 (see ante, 18:340).

Much of the space in a "Golden Jubilee" edition of the Raymond
News, issued on June 10, is devoted to a review of "When Raymond
Was Young in 1888: A History of the Community" by Henry E.
Day. Installments of this narrative began to appear in the News in
March and continued through May. They are reprinted in a single
issue to mark the fiftieth anniversary of the founding of the village,
which was celebrated by the community on June 14 and 15. Appearing in the same number are some reminiscent accounts by pioneers, including William Archie Day of St. Paul and Samuel Latterell of Spokane, and a brief history of the village band by H. C. Feig, Sr.

"The High School at Tracy has launched a very commendable project in seeking to save to posterity some of the historic material of this section that came down from pioneer days" reads an editorial in the Tracy Headlight-Herald for April 8. The writer goes on to point out that it is important to provide for the preservation of such material before it is lost or destroyed. In the substantial building occupied by the Tracy High School, records of frontier life in Lyon County and objects used by its pioneer settlers can be placed for safekeeping. There, also, they can be displayed, in order to "give the new generation and those that will follow a means of visualizing the life of the pioneers."

The lumber industry of the Rum River Valley is recalled in a series of murals that decorate the recently completed town hall of Milaca, which was erected by workers engaged in a WPA project. Figures of a lumberjack and a frontier scout appear on opposite sides of the entrance to the auditorium, and on its walls are scenes depicting the exterior and interior of an early sawmill, the felling of timber, the movement of logs to the river, and a log drive moving downstream. The murals were designed and executed by Andre Boratko of the WPA federal art project.

The Nelson-Moen Family of the Town of Tumuli, Otter Tail County, Minnesota, is the subject of a little pamphlet prepared by Bersvend J. Blikstad following a reunion of some two hundred members of this family at Ten Mile Lake Lutheran Church on June 20, 1937 (1938. 24 p.). He describes the Norwegian background of the Nelson family in the parish of Tynset, and presents sketches of the five brothers who left that place to settle in frontier Minnesota.

Brief histories of commercial organizations of the West Side district of St. Paul appear in a fiftieth anniversary edition of the West Saint Paul Times, published on April 2. Accounts of local churches and sketches of pioneer residents also are included, and the opening page of the first issue of the paper, published on January 1, 1887, is reproduced in facsimile.
A paper on "Faribault, Minnesota" was presented by Leonard S. Wilson at a meeting of the Association of American Geographers at Ann Arbor, Michigan, in December, 1937. An abstract of the paper, which dealt with the geography of the Big Woods area, its exploration by white men, the beginning of settlement at Faribault, and its development as one of the typical "smaller county seats" of the Northwest, appears in the *Annals* of the association for March.

The founding of Bishop Seabury University at Faribault eighty years ago is recalled in the *Faribault Daily News* for April 26. Attention is called to the fact that from the institution established in 1858, Shattuck School has developed. The history of "Student Publications" at this school, from 1876 to the present, is reviewed in the *Shattuck Spectator* for May 25.

A detailed description of Elk River in the seventies is contributed by J. W. Featherston to the *Sherburne County Star News* of June 16. The author settled in Elk River in 1874, and he pictures for his readers the buildings, business houses, and industries that existed in the community at that time.