
This story of the National Road covers the history of that great thoroughfare into the “Valley of Democracy” from the days when young George Washington blazed a trail to the forks of the Ohio and Braddock’s engineers widened it into a wilderness road to the present day, when the automobile once again has made this route a main artery for passenger and freight traffic across the eastern half of the United States.

The author, first of all, has discussed in great detail the actual building of the road, its cost, the labor force employed, the engineering obstacles encountered during its construction, and the sectional political and constitutional battles fought in Congress and out over the question of federal support for internal improvements. The road, starting from Cumberland, reached Columbus in 1833, Indianapolis in 1850, and was finally carried on to Vandalia, Illinois. It was never a good road all the way at any one time, yet it carried the tide of settlement and commerce into the great heartland of America.

By 1831 the Ohio legislature assumed responsibility for the repair and preservation of the road in that state; other states followed the lead of their Buckeye neighbor; toll gates were erected to help meet the expense; and, gradually, parts of the road were allowed to slip under the control of the counties and even private companies. The canals provided some competition for the road, but the Baltimore and Ohio furnished the knock-out blow, and the great highway degenerated so rapidly that by the 1870’s it was, for considerable distances, hardly more than an “unimproved, little-used lane.”

Dr. Jordan has told this part of his story with adequate detail. Still more interesting, however, is his account of the life that went on around the road, in the frontier area which it originally served. We can follow the development of strategically located cities like Wheeling, and the careers of “Land Admirals,” like Lucius W. Stockton and James Reeside, whose custom-built stages operated on regular schedules. The author describes the lives of the stage drivers, the hazards of the road and the early safety regulations, the wagoners who displaced the pack-horse man
in hauling freight, and their cargoes, including oysters and newly invented stogies, for which they provided quick delivery. In short, one gets a rather detailed picture of the whole frontier economy as it developed about this great avenue of transportation and communication. The extensive use of contemporary diaries and journals makes the narrative lively reading. In the chapter which describes the driving of livestock to Eastern markets and packing centers by professionals who had their own cattle brands, one gets a preview of the ranchman's frontier of a later period which robs the romantic trans-Mississippi West of some of its uniqueness.

In addition to all this, the author describes the towns and inns along the old National Road, the strange assortment of travelers who collected in them, and the food and drinks they served. He retells some of the legends and tall tales of the period, and portrays the peddlers, politicians, and entertainers who came over the road in its early days to offer their wares to eager listeners. One chapter deals with the march of epidemics and diseases, the greatest travelers of all, and with the medical practices of the frontier, and the "doctor book" which lay next to the Bible in nearly every home, for, contrary to the legend of the robust frontiersman, the pioneer was often a man of many aches and pains.

In 1861 the road assumed new life as a military thoroughfare. But a few years thereafter it degenerated rapidly into a forlorn, grass-grown, dusty road for farmers, or completely lost its identity in the main streets of the cities which it had helped to create. It was the automobile which finally brought the old route to life again, as U.S. 40. Now passenger cars and heavy interstate trucks hum along over paved highway in an endless procession, day and night. The old, picturesque taverns and livery stables are gone. Now hamburger stands, filling stations, ugly billboards, and a new kind of roadhouse mark the old historic route.

All of this is good social history. Much of it could have been written just as well about some other theme than the old National Road, though the author has done a skillful job of integration. The book is interesting and sprightly, and reflects years of patient research and careful scholarship in many of the byways of historical investigation. Dr. Jordan has several excellent books to his credit, but this is his best.

Carl Wittke
The First Frontier. By R. V. Coleman. (New York, Charles Scribner’s Sons, 1948. xiii, 458 p. Illustrations. $3.75.)

R. V. Coleman may not be looked upon as a professional historian but he has had more to do with the writing and publishing of American history than any half-dozen historians one could name off-hand. He helped publish the Dictionary of American Biography and has been managing editor of the Dictionary of American History, the Atlas of American History, and the Album of American History. He says in his preface to this book that it was written for the “busy reader” who wants to know why the first settlers came, what sort of people they were, how they made a living, how they behaved, and what they thought. A good many men have tried to do just that. There are at least four good one-volume texts (none published by Scribners) on American Colonial history. Coleman’s book is not a text, however, and is much better written than the average. It is an account of the founding of the mainland colonies that were started before 1660. Hence, although there are two long and interesting chapters on Spanish and French explorers, there is no discussion of the Carolinas, Pennsylvania, and Georgia.

Within these limits the book is the bright retelling of a story familiar to historians: it is a skillful weaving together of many strands. Most books leave the impression that the colonies were remote from one another, whereas this one shows people going from colony to colony and back and forth to England. Any number of old hands at colonization turn up in Virginia, Plymouth, Massachusetts Bay, and elsewhere. The early colonists traded back and forth. Ships to and from England stopped at most of the early colonies, dropping off and picking up passengers and goods. The early colonists knew, talked with, and fought the Dutch and the Swedes on the Delaware. All were alarmed at the founding of Maryland as a refuge for Catholics.

The book is far less successful in telling why people came and what they thought. The treatment of the English background of religious thought and the application of that thought to early struggles in New England is an obvious example. For instance, the account of the adoption of the congregational form of church government does not square with recent scholarship. This is probably the result of failure to make use of the more minute monographs, for while the best of secondary works and many printed sources are used, the former are neglected. But the “busy reader” will not know the difference, and probably wouldn’t care if he
were told. He will like the lively account of morals, manners, and human relationships in fresh modern prose, a prose which the academic historian might well examine with a view to self-improvement.

**Merrill Jensen**

*Minutes of the Hudson's Bay Company, 1679–1684, second part, 1682–84 (Hudson's Bay Record Society, *Publications*, vol. 9).* Edited by E. E. Rich, M.A. With an introduction by G. N. Clark. (Published by the Champlain Society for the Hudson’s Bay Record Society, 1946. xlv, 368, x p.)

By the beginning of the short period with which this volume deals, the affairs of the Hudson's Bay Company were commencing to be decidedly of interest from an American point of view. Pierre Esprit Radisson was in the New World once more and up to more tricks than even he had seemed capable of imagining theretofore. Perhaps there are no more eventful years in his checkered career than these two, when he was winning the Hudson Bay country first for the French and then for the English. His name occurs many times in these minutes of meetings, sometimes as an enemy, but finally as a sort of savior. His brother-in-law, Medard Chouart, sieur des Groseilliers, is mentioned only once, and then in an indirect manner.

Success was finally coming to the company, and with it came the dangers that frequently accompany improvement in worldly status. Interlopers — the term was in common use in the 1680’s and meant rivals who dared compete within the company’s chartered territory — became a serious threat, especially those from New England. The case of the interloping family of Gillams of Boston is recited in detail. It involved many persons whose lives touched Radisson’s career. Most of all, it involved Radisson himself.

Another danger loomed, the “French Leviathan,” to use the quaint language of the company’s own deputy governor. From the “Jawes” of this monster, the company almost prayerfully hoped “to be rescued.” Again Radisson was at the root of the evil. He had led Frenchmen to the west shore of Hudson Bay, where the company was just beginning a new settlement; and, worst of all, perhaps, he had penetrated to the natives in the interior — that is, he had sent his capable and energetic nephew, Jean Baptiste Chouart.

Many other characters catch and hold the interest of the alert reader:
Sir Christopher Wren, Prince Rupert, Sir James Hayes, Lord Shaftesbury, and John Churchill, already well started on his famous, not to say notorious career as a military genius if not as a loyal friend to the man who had given him his start, James, duke of York and Albany, the company's governor until he became king. These were parlous times in England, and the company was trying diligently to be on the winning side politically.

Only an exceptionally astute reader would grasp all the inferences of apparently innocuous entries unless he had the able introduction by Professor Clark and the careful annotation to help him. The editorial work of earlier volumes in the series is matched by this book's; the format remains the same. Every additional volume helps Americans and Canadians realize more fully how important the archives of this oldest of all extant corporations are for our history.

GRACE LEE NUTE

America in Perspective: The United States through Foreign Eyes. Edited, with an Introduction and Notes, by HENRY STEELE COMMAGER. (New York, Random House, 1947. xxiv, 389 p. $4.00.)

From the extensive writings of foreign visitors to the United States, Professor Commager of Columbia University has selected portions of thirty-five commentaries on the American scene. In his introduction the editor states his principles of selection: "I have tried to cover adequately a hundred and fifty years, and to find at least one interpreter for each decade. . . . I have tried, further, to give adequate representation to as many countries as possible. . . . I have been concerned with conclusions rather than merely with observations, and in a great many instances that principle left little room for choice. . . . I have been influenced by the desire to get illumination on diverse subjects." The primary purpose of the volume is to find answers to the question posed by one of the earlier visitors: "What is the American, this new man?"

Among the thirty-five authors represented, many names will be familiar, such as Crèvecoeur, Cobbett, Lieber, De Tocqueville, Marryat, Martineau, Dickens, Macaulay, Dicey, Arnold, Bryce, Munsterberg, Chesterton, Madariaga, De Sales, Buchan, and Brogan. The others may be less well known: Brissot de Warville, Grund, Mackay, Raeder, Grattan, Pulszky, Schaff, Gurowski, Burn, Bourget, Steevens, De Vaya, Birmingham, George, Müller-Freienfels, No Yong-Park, Petrov, and Vinde.
Many of the countries of Europe and Asia are represented, but half of the commentators are from the British Isles.

The comments on America vary in quality, but certain judgments seem to be generally held. There is universal emphasis upon the American's faith in progress, his practice of equality, his willingness to experiment, his stern moral code, and his respect for the place of women in society. On the other hand, there are noted American abundance and waste, the pervasiveness of material values, the mobility and consequent rootlessness, the unhappy lot of minorities, and indiscriminate tastes. Professor Commager's conclusion, however, is that "America has, on the whole, confounded her critics where they were pessimistic rather than where they were optimistic."

The visitors tended to stay east of the Mississippi and even east of the Appalachians, but some saw the sweep of the western country as well. They cannot therefore be said to have seen all of America in perspective. Rather it is the foreshortened view of visitors entering and leaving from an Atlantic port, and writing in many cases from a trans-Atlantic point of vantage. The title is, however, proper enough in the sense of a perspective upon the traits of Americans. A more accurate title would have been: "Americans in Perspective."

Carlton C. Qualey


The autobiography of America's first forester has been watched for with considerable interest by foresters, conservationists, and lumbermen. Gifford Pinchot, scion of a wealthy and well-placed family, could have floated with his times, easing himself from the currents and eddies into a quiet pool of respectability. Instead he chose, upon the advice of his father, to study forestry and to become America's first scientifically trained forester. His choice led him eventually into a national political whirlpool, the Ballinger-Pinchot controversy, which helped to defeat Taft in 1912.

Pinchot's choice of a career led him to study under European masters, since American college offerings in forestry were negligible in his youth. European forestry methods, he found, were not suited to the American scene. In Europe labor costs were low and timber was scarce. The reverse was true in America. As a result, European practices were
uneconomic in an American forest. What was needed was the development of forestry practices fitted to American conditions. Pinchot's fame rests upon the groundwork which he laid for American forestry.

After a year at the Vanderbilt Biltmore Forest in North Carolina, Pinchot sought wider opportunities for his talents. Shortly before the turn of the century he became chief of the division of forestry in the department of agriculture. It was largely through his efforts that this division rapidly grew into the present Forest Service. To his ability to inspire devoted followers and to maintain high morale among poorly paid employees was added great skill as a propagandist. With his friend Theodore Roosevelt, he beat the drums for the conservation of natural resources, aroused a flaming following among the public, and launched the conservation movement among the political tides.

When Roosevelt was succeeded by the well-meaning but colorless Taft, Pinchot felt that the conservation movement was in danger. A careful scrutiny of events convinced him that certain activities of Secretary Ballinger were open to challenge. The imbroglio which followed led to Pinchot's resignation from government service, contributed to the formation of the Bull Moose party and the defeat of Taft, and dramatized the conservation movement as a struggle between good and evil. Although sounds of the battle have long since fallen away, scars left by the fight still remain. It would be difficult to say whether timber conservation was helped or harmed by the Ballinger-Pinchot controversy.

Pinchot's autobiography is the story of an exciting and well-traveled individual in the era before the world had been sundered by two great wars. In those days people believed in progress. Pinchot's career and book illustrate some of the bases for their belief.

RODNEY C. LOEHR

Saga in Steel and Concrete: Norwegian Engineers in America. By KENNETh BJORk. (Northfield, Minnesota, Norwegian-American Historical Association, 1947. vii, 504 p. Illustrations. $4.00.)

The reviewer read this book with great interest and recommends it with enthusiasm. It is a useful and a significant book.

As a collective biography of scores of engineers of Norwegian origin working in American business and public projects for nearly a century, the book will serve as a useful reference work. Many of the engineers included were of that large company of technical men who as a group
do important work but individually are not significant. A surprising number were leaders in their fields, for example Carl Barth, Tinius Olsen, E. A. Cappelen Smith, and Ole Singstad, distinguished, respectively, in industrial relations, the designing of testing machines, the metallurgy of copper, and tunnel design and construction. Others did important work in the design and construction of bridges, subways, buildings, and machines, as chemical, sanitary, and electrical engineers, and as architects. This book thus brings together factual information about many men, some of which the author drew from the memory of living men and which, therefore, is not recorded elsewhere in print.

This book is, however, more than a collective biography—it is a history of a migration of technical knowledge and skills, and as such it should be of wide interest to general readers. By virtue of the range of its subjects' activities and the author's insight into larger developments in technical education and engineering opportunities and work, the book constitutes a notable contribution to the history of engineering in the United States. Its clear organization and effective style make it easy to read.

To the student of history the volume has a special significance. It points to an important reason for America's engineering leadership today—the fact that our engineering has drawn heavily on the institutions, experience, and men of several countries in Europe. This is a contribution which American historians have almost wholly neglected; Horten, Porsgrunn, and Trondheim shared with Rensselaer and M.I.T. the training of engineers for work in America. Moreover, this study illustrates how rich a field for historical research the history of engineering offers to American scholars, who have generally shown little interest in the engineer and the businessman, leaders in the development of our great and productive economic system. That the engineers were more than self-seeking workers in material things is shown by Professor Bjork's study.

To be sure, the book leaves much untold. Breaking a new path with little aid from monographs and general works, the author had to do basic research in scattered sources, and basic thinking as well. There are many points at which the reader might like further information and more positive evaluations and comparisons, but nowhere did I discover that the author made easy generalizations or set forth unsupported claims for his engineers. What might well have been a superficial book, uncritically laudatory, is a careful and thoughtful work.
The Norwegian-American Historical Association again deserves commendation for the quality and the originality of a volume which it has sponsored. The reviewer takes this opportunity to suggest that sponsoring one or more biographies of leading American engineers of Norwegian origin would be a fitting continuation of the significant contribution which it has presented in Professor Bjork's study.

Henrietta M. Larson

*Men to Remember: How 100,000 Neighbors Made History.* By Kenneth D. Ruble. (Chicago, 1947. xv, 318 p. Illustrations. $2.00.)

Strictly speaking, this book is a popularized history of the Land O'Lakes Creameries, Inc., one of the leading dairy marketing co-operatives in the United States, during its first quarter century, from 1921 to 1946. In a larger and more discerning sense, predestined by the nature and significance of the subject, however, it is far more than that. It is the story of how approximately a hundred thousand individual farmers scattered over Minnesota, Wisconsin, and the Dakotas have achieved success by following the ideal of co-operation, not only as dairymen, but in the field of big business as well. It includes also the trial-and-error efforts of the pioneers who preceded them as farmers and leaders in the dairy industry. It is the saga of how dairying became the dominating and basic element in the economy of the upper Middle West.

This history is not the record of an orderly and glorious success. It involves much blindness, shortsightedness, faltering, and disappointment, as well as clear vision, intelligence, perseverance, and triumph. The accent is on the heroes, but there are also villains in the picture. Although a story of the past, it points to the future.

The background of the steps leading to the formation of Land O'Lakes Creameries is sketched briefly but adequately in four chapters. The first begins with Jean Baptiste Faribault’s delivery of the first large herd of cattle ever seen in Minnesota Territory at Fort Snelling (then called Fort St. Anthony) in 1820, and concludes with Theophilus Levi Haecker’s famous “Feeding Standard,” published in 1913. The central figure of the second chapter is Arthur J. McGuire, who became the clearinghouse for information and help to the Minnesota dairymen and their co-operatives during the first decade of the present century. The third chapter explains the efforts of the dairy co-operatives in Meeker County, Minnesota, to work as a group in solving their mar-
keting problems—a development that pointed the way for larger state and regional organization. The next chapter summarizes the state and national situation at the end of World War I. The early years, the growing pains, the changing currents, the contributions during World War II, and the current status of Land O'Lakes Creameries are delineated in the remaining twenty-three chapters. There is also an appendix listing the men who have served on the board of directors of the corporation, and a short bibliography.

This book is based on extensive research in the pertinent sources, including the vast mass of records of Land O'Lakes Creameries and related organizations, the many publications of the United States department of agriculture and the state agencies on dairying and cooperatives, and books and pamphlets of a more general nature. The author interviewed many of the men who actively participated in the events depicted. Three of the Land O'Lakes directors, serving as a committee, reviewed the facts presented in the text.

The author—a newsman, columnist, and feature writer—has essayed this undertaking well. His is a very readable book which both laymen and specialists will enjoy and profit by reading. The book is beautifully printed by the Lakeside Press and it includes over fifty illustrations in addition to the pen-and-ink sketches by Lyle Justis at the beginnings of the chapters. Although the work was commissioned by the directors of Land O'Lakes Creameries, the interpretations are the author's. The villains are not mobbed and dragged through the public square.

Some will find the short paragraphs disconcerting, and those who wish to consult the book as occasions arise will deplore the lack of an index. Some of us who have done research on the same subject would have liked more facts about certain incidents or an indication of where to find them. Nevertheless, we have here a good and useful book—one that not only tells its story well but contributes to a better understanding of the co-operative movement and what it has meant to the upper Middle West.

Everett E. Edwards

Subject Bibliography of Wisconsin History. Compiled by Leroy Schlinkert. (Madison, State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1947. xvii, 213 p. $3.60.)

The upper Midwest is now in the midst of a period of state and other centennial observances, and the interest engendered by such events
has led to the production of a number of timely and useful historical publications. The present volume, published with the 1948 Wisconsin State Centennial in mind, is assuredly one of these. The compiler explains in his introduction that the book is by no means a bibliography in the technical sense of historical scholarship, but rather a select list of references, with no pretension to exhaustive completeness, but with the purpose of providing in accessible form a guide to the readily available sources in English for the study of Wisconsin history. This purpose has admittedly led the compiler into some difficulty, because no subject index could leave out certain topical headings for which the only source materials have not yet been “worked over” and are still in the collections of universities and central historical libraries. It is easy to see that the compiler found himself obliged alternately to apply a rather rigid formula of exclusion of general or regional histories lest the book become too bulky, and to open his pages to items rather hard to come by lest the book omit important but obscurely documented details of Wisconsin’s historical inventory.

All in all, the bibliography is certainly much more ambitious in scope than would be required by the so-called general reader, yet it is not so compendious as to scare him away. The list of subjects is comprehensive and seems ideally chosen for a centennial publication, since it is arranged much as the Wisconsin citizen would naturally arrange his inquiry in making a thoughtful survey of his state’s history.

J. M. Nolte


The trials and joys of a Norwegian immigrant pastor are vividly revealed in this group of letters written by Duus from his Wisconsin parsonage to his relatives in Norway in the 1850’s. The original letters in Oslo impressed Dean Blegen with their realistic portrayal of a minister’s life on the frontier. Because of his enthusiasm, the translation of the letters became a project of a Minneapolis group interested in Norwegian-American culture, and the Norwegian-American Historical Association appropriately published the selections as the fourth volume in its *Travel and Description Series.*
Duus wrote not as a tourist or a settler committed to a new home in the wilderness, but as one debating whether the opportunities of the new land outweighed the advantages of clerical life in Norway. It is interesting to see unfold the problems which finally caused him to return to Norway—the sparsity of intellectual contact, the meager medical care for his wife, the heavy physical burdens of housekeeping, and the cold weather which he endured in seeking his congregations while his wife kept the children warm and safe in his absence. Duus's comments on the numbers of disillusioned immigrants returning to Norway are particularly interesting because this feature is so frequently overlooked in accounts of western settlement.

Although the letters appear in chronological order from July, 1855, to June, 1858, the editor has found an idea in each group to justify a separation into five chapters. The well-chosen titles given to individual letters consist of sentences or telling phrases quoted from Duus's own remarks. By thus giving them emphasis, the editor pays tribute to the letter writer's skill in expressing the mood as well as in describing the details of his new home.

A most appropriate cover and a jacket designed by Jane McCarthy catch the quality of the frontier interlude which Duus portrays so honestly and directly in the letters.

Evadene Burris Swanson

Bibliography of Ohio Archaeology. By Richard G. Morgan and James H. Rodabaugh. (Columbus, The Ohio State Archaeological and Historical Society, 1947. v, 189 p. $2.50.)

The publication of such a tool as this has significance for scholars far beyond the immediate region with which it deals, and in a larger sphere beyond the immediate topic. Bibliographies and guides are the tools of the historian and the social scientist, and workers in these fields still have far too few. The progress of learning in the New World has sometimes been halting and its objectives dimly seen—in part, at least, as a result of poor communication between workers—and reference lists, guides, and manuals help to improve communication.

This comprehensive bibliography of Ohio archaeology—perhaps the first major effort of its kind for any similar region of the New World—constitutes a landmark in American learning. The volume is presented as a centennial memorial to Ephraim G. Squier and Edwin H.
Davis, whose *Ancient Monuments of the Mississippi Valley* was the first of the *Contributions to Knowledge* of an institution that has recently celebrated its own centennial, the Smithsonian. As one examines this bibliography, the prehistory of the New World takes on a new significance even for the most enthusiastic student of the subject. In such a key to the printed records of that past one glimpses something of the variety and richness of a nearly forgotten realm of human effort.

Students of the upper Midwest note with interest the inclusion in this reference list of certain contributions of Theodore H. Lewis, Newton H. Winchell, William B. Nickerson, and Leland R. Cooper. For the sake of accuracy it should, perhaps, be pointed out that the only contribution listed for Winchell, an article on early man in North America, was later published in revised form in his *Aborigines of Minnesota*, issued in 1911 by the Minnesota Historical Society.

G. Hubert Smith
"The transplanting of our eastern civilization to the West, certainly one of the most important movements in our history, is also one of the most neglected," declares Thomas J. Wertenbaker in an essay on "The Molding of the Middle West" in the American Historical Review for January. "Where do we turn," the writer asks, "for a definitive study of the establishment of New England civilization in western New York, northern Pennsylvania, on the shores of Lake Erie and Lake Michigan, and along the banks of the upper Mississippi?" Perhaps the studies of the Northampton colony published by Charles W. Nichols in this magazine eight or ten years ago are not "definitive," but they certainly picture one phase of New England colonization in the upper Mississippi Valley. And Yankee contributions to Minnesota lumbering, flour milling, education, and cultural life in general have not been entirely overlooked.

Some useful suggestions for Teaching Local History in Today's World have been assembled under the editorship of George I. Oeste in a pamphlet published as volume 44, part 2 of the Annual Proceedings of the Middle States Council for the Social Studies (Philadelphia, 1948. 96 p.). Among the contributions included are Mary E. Cunningham's "Survey of Current Practices in the Teaching of State and Local History" and her ideas about "How the Historical Society Can Help in the Teaching of Local History"; S. K. Stevens' remarks on "State and Local History in Relation to National and International Affairs" and his report on "Pennsylvania's Experience with Local History in the Schools"; Milton W. Hamilton's suggestions for "Teaching State and Local History in College"; and Albert B. Corey's remarks on "Local History and the Community." The various authors represented have drawn upon experience in the schools of Maryland, Pennsylvania, New York, the District of Columbia, and New Jersey.

A dozen "Types of Service Offered by an Historical Society Library" are listed and analyzed by Mrs. Margaret D. Gidney of the Western Reserve Historical Society in Cleveland in the January issue of Special Libraries. "We believe that it is our function today not only to collect and preserve the records of the past, but also to use these records to educate and entertain anyone we can reach," writes Mrs. Gidney.
The papers on "The Upper Midwest" presented before the October meeting of the Upper Midwest History Conference (see ante, p. 82) have been assembled in a mimeographed booklet (25 p.). Copies are available through the Minnesota Historical Society at fifty cents each. Included are Dean Theodore C. Blegen's introductory remarks, Professor A. C. Krey's answer to the question "Is the Territorial Centennial of Concern Only to Professors of American History?", Dr. Carlton C. Qualey's discussion of "Upper Midwest Centennials," Professor Ernest Osgood's observations on "The City and the Frontier," and Dr. Grace Lee Nute's appraisal of the "Significance of the French Regime in the Upper Midwest." The spring meeting of the conference was held at Carleton College in Northfield on April 10. Professor Herbert Heaton of the University of Minnesota presided; a paper on "William III and the Revolution of 1688" was read by Professor Lucile D. Deen of Carleton College; and it was discussed by Professors David Willson of the University of Minnesota, Clarence Rife of Hamline University, and Kenneth Holmes of Macalester College. About fifty people attended the meeting.

The story of "The Daguerreotype," its invention, its use, and its decline, is outlined by Beaumont Newhall in the April number of Antiques. The author, who is engaged in assembling material for a full-length study of daguerreotypes, recently visited the Minnesota Historical Society, examined the daguerreotypes in its collection, and made photographic reproductions of some of the more significant items found there.

The Minnesota Historical Society's autograph resources were the subject of a talk given by Dr. Carlton C. Qualey before a meeting of the National Society of Autograph Collectors at the University of Minnesota Library on April 16. Mr. Allyn K. Ford of Minneapolis is president of the Twin City chapter of the newly organized society. It will hold its first annual meeting at the William L. Clements Library of the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor on May 17 and 18.

The opening section of Paul I. Wellman's Death on Horseback: Seventy Years of War for the American West is entitled "Massacre in Minnesota" and deals with the Sioux Outbreak of 1862–63 (Philadelphia, 1947. 484 p.). From the breaking of the storm after a quiet "Sabbath in the Backwoods" in mid-August of 1862 to the death of Little Crow almost eleven months later, the story is reviewed in brief outline. Mr. Wellman's book, which combines two earlier works—Death on the
Prairie and Death in the Desert—is a selection of the History Book Club.

Stewart H. Holbrook's The Story of American Railroads (New York, 1947. 468 p.) is a charming account of the social history of the country's railroads. Chapters on James J. Hill and the transcontinental railroads are of special interest to Minnesotans. Technical developments—difficult subjects for the layman—are handled with clarity and ease. Two chapters, one on the introduction of time zones and the other on the appearance of the colorful and persistent news butcher, deal with aspects of railroading previously neglected.

R.C.L.

Under the title "On Reconnaissance for the Great Northern," a series of personal letters written by C. F. B. Haskell from 1889 to 1891 and edited by his son, Daniel C. Haskell, appears in the Bulletin of the New York Public Library for February and March. With John F. Stevens, Haskell explored the mountain areas of Montana and Washington, looking for suitable passes and tracing out the most feasible route for a rail line. His letters, written to his wife at Winona, picture the "more personal aspects of pioneer railroad exploration, its enjoyable aspects as well as its hardships." Among the adventures recorded is the finding of Stevens Pass through the Cascade Mountains, in use today by the Great Northern. Late in 1891, Mrs. Haskell joined her husband in Spokane. One of the last of the letters contains his instructions for her journey by rail from St. Paul to the Pacific Northwest.

The first installment of an address on "United States-Canadian Treaties Affecting Great Lakes Commerce and Navigation," read by Gilbert R. Johnson before the annual meeting of the Great Lakes Historical Society at Cleveland on May 22, 1947, is printed in the October number of Inland Seas. Some indication of the interest these treaties have for Minnesotans is to be found in the writer's statement that "in the ordinary course of a voyage from Oswego to Duluth, an American ship passes through some 235 miles of Canadian waters."

Utilizing historical sources relating to the Assiniboin Indians and archaeological information from sites both in Minnesota and Manitoba, Chris Vickers writes of the relationships of the areas on either side of the international border in the first number of the Plains Archaeological Conference News Letter, published on April 15. The conference is an
informal organization of archaeologists and others interested in the pre-history of the plains region. The editor of the newly established *News Letter* is Mr. Jesse D. Jennings of the National Park Service at Omaha. G.H.S.

The narratives of traders, explorers, and wilderness adventurers are quoted by Corday Mackay in an article on “The Great Rendezvous: Kaministikwia-Fort William,” which appears in the *Canadian Geographical Journal* for January. From Roderick. McKenzie's reminiscences is quoted an account of his rediscovery about 1797 of the Kaministikwia route, known more than a century earlier by the French. Mr. Mackay explains how the route replaced the Grand Portage route to the interior farther south, and how in the early years of the new century the North West Company’s headquarters were removed from the Minnesota post to that at the mouth of the Kaministikwia. “When the buildings were finally finished the fort was an imposing depot,” writes Mr. Mackay. “It was known as New Fort in 1805 but in 1807 its name was changed to Fort William in honour of William McGillivray.” From Washington Irving's *Astoria*, the writer quotes a description of a rendezvous at Fort William in its most colorful days. Several views of the fort are among the illustrations appearing with the article.

A “Narrative of a Journey to Manitoba” by Jacob Y. Schantz, portions of which are quoted in a group of documents relating to “Mennonite Immigration into Manitoba,” edited by Ernst Correll for the January number of the *Mennonite Quarterly Review*, includes a description of a trip through Minnesota in 1872. With a representative of a Russian Mennonite group, Schantz reached St. Paul early in November. He reached Manitoba “by the Lake Superior and Mississippi Railway to Duluth; thence by the Northern Pacific Railway to Moorehead,” going to Pembina “on the borders of Manitoba” before entering Canada. The writer’s comments on weather and climate are of interest. “Whilst travelling in the States of Minnesota and Dacotah,” Schantz writes, “it snowed continually with drift. He reports that “on reaching the Manitoba line, however, we found very little snow.” The travelers enjoyed “beautiful weather” when they left Fort Garry for the return trip on December 1, but Schantz notes that “the further south we came the more snow we found till on our arrival at St. Paul, it was fully a foot in depth.”
The National Museum of Canada has published as number 107 of its Bulletins a collection of folk songs assembled under the title *Come A Singing! Canadian Folk-songs* (Ottawa, 1947. 59 p.). Both the words and the music have been adapted “for practical use” by Marius Barbeau, Arthur Bourinot, and Douglas Leechman; the illustrations are the work of Arthur Lismer. That the songs have a special interest for Minnesotans is indicated by at least two of the titles—“Remember the Red River” and “On My Way to Rainy River.”

A daughter of James Wickes Taylor, a prominent St. Paulite who served for more than two decades as United States consul at Winnipeg, is the heroine of Grace Lee Nute’s “Paris to Peel’s River in 1892,” the first installment of which appears in the March Beaver. Elizabeth Taylor’s diaries, sketches, and photographs taken on her journey into the Canadian wilderness are among the sources drawn upon by the writer. The sketch of Mrs. Frances Ann Hopkins, “Voyageurs’ Artist,” which Miss Nute contributed to the June, 1947, Beaver, is reprinted in the Canadian Review of Music and Art for January.

The North-west Mounted Police Memorial and Indian Museum, recently established at Battleford, Saskatchewan, will be opened officially during the summer of 1948. The museum collects records and pictures of the Canadian police force and attempts to reconstruct in exhibits the conditions of the mounted policeman’s life.

A recent addition to the series of *Look at America* regional volumes is one dealing with *The Midwest* (1947. 392 p.). In pictures, supplemented by a few maps and some explanatory text, the story of the section of America that includes Minnesota is here recorded by the editors of *Look* magazine in collaboration with Louis Bromfield. There are illustrated accounts of Hibbing, Duluth, and the Twin Cities, and a report in words and pictures of the recreational facilities afforded by Minnesota’s “North Country.”

In *Land, Men, and Credit* (New York, Island Press, 1947. 61 p.), Leo E. Manion traces the development of ideas about rural credits under Theodore Roosevelt and Taft and their crystallization into the Federal Farm Loan Board of Woodrow Wilson. The agricultural inflation of World War I, the subsequent postwar depression, the financial crisis of the 1930’s, the years of drought, and the New Deal’s emergency meas-
ures receive some attention. Curiously, although today land values have not yet reached the heights attained after World War I, the percentage rise has been as great, since the recent rise in land prices started from a lower level. The author closes with a word of warning against practices leading to the inflationary stratosphere and the inevitable chaotic descent. The book is poorly printed and bound, but it may have its uses.

R.C.L.

NEWS FROM THE STATES

The Kensington rune stone, which has been an object of study by historians, archaeologists, and linguists since its discovery near the Minnesota village of Kensington half a century ago, was sent to Washington early in March for detailed examination and display in the Smithsonian Institution. The stone previously was kept in the office of the Alexandria Chamber of Commerce. A replica of the stone is now on display in the museum of the Minnesota Historical Society.

A plaque commemorating the explorations of Giacomo C. Beltrami, an Italian who explored the Minnesota country in 1823, will be dedicated at Buena Vista in Beltrami County on August 22. The 1947 legislature appropriated five hundred dollars for such a plaque. The dedication ceremony will be a feature of a celebration commemorating the one hundred and twenty-fifth anniversary of the discovery of Lake Julia by Beltrami, who believed it to be the most northern source of the Mississippi.

Catholic missions at Crow Wing and Mille Lacs and conditions in the diocese of St. Paul in 1852 are described by Father Francis Pierz in the March issue of the Social Justice Review, which contains the eleventh installment of Father Eugene Hagedorn’s translation of the pioneer missionary’s book about the American Indians (see ante, 28:277). Father Pierz’s volume, Die Indianer in Nord-Amerika, was published in 1855. In the sections appearing in the January and February issues of the Review, Father Pierz describes missionary journeys among the Chippewa of northern Minnesota, Canada, and Michigan, with visits to such points as Sault Ste. Marie, Grand Portage, and Fort William.

The well-known lithograph of the “Execution of the Thirty-eight Sioux Indians at Mankato, Minnesota, December 26, 1862” is reproduced as plate 129 in An Album of American Battle Art, 1755-1918, published
by the Library of Congress (Washington, 1947). This handsome volume includes also a note on the events leading up to the execution and a description of the scene depicted. The print reproduced is that issued by the Milwaukee Lithographic and Engraving Company in 1883; according to the descriptive text, "it is an obvious derivative," and an inferior one, "from a print of the same title published by Wise & Clark of Mankato" in 1865.

In a pamphlet entitled *The Chippewas and Their Children* (1947, 8 p.), L. A. Rossman tells "a little about these people as they once were and as they now are." He is concerned chiefly with the Chippewa of the Red Lake, White Earth, Leech Lake, and northeastern Minnesota reservations. The writer points out the fact that the full-blooded Chippewa are gradually disappearing, and he notes that "any person who had any ancestor who had any Chippewa blood has been considered a part of the Chippewa tribes."

That the Aurora Ski Club of Red Wing sponsored the first skiing tournament in the United States in 1887 is recalled by Sara Schouweiler in an article entitled "Skiing Grows into Sport," which appears in *Golfer and Sportsman* for February. The writer stresses the role of the brothers, Mikkel and Torgus Hemmestvedt, and other Norwegian-Americans in making the sport popular in America. The "Norwegian Influence on American Skiing" is recognized also by Frank Elkins, who reviews the subject in the *American-Scandinavian Review* for December, mentioning clubs at Red Wing and Minneapolis. Another winter sport that has long flourished in Minnesota is the subject of an article in the January number of *Golfer and Sportsman*—"What's This Game Called Curling?" by Robert L. Anderson.

The Quetico-Superior region along Minnesota's international boundary was once famed as a "thoroughfare for travel by explorers, missionaries and fur traders," writes A. G. Hall in an article on the area appearing in the January number of *American Forests*. The writer, however, gives more attention to recent history, tracing the story of the wilderness playground since 1909, when the Superior National Forest was established. A wealth of useful statistical information about the "Forest Resources of Minnesota" at various periods in its history is presented in the same issue by J. A. Donery. His article is based upon the "findings of the Forest Resource Appraisal of the American Forestry Association."
The "Beginnings of Minnesota Public Health" are surveyed by Philip D. Jordan of the staff of the Minnesota Historical Society in the Bulletin of the History of Medicine for September-October, 1947. "Public health was private health until after the Civil War," writes Dr. Jordan. "All this was to change when a young military surgeon, Dr. Charles N. Hewitt, fresh from the Civil War campaigns in Virginia, arrived in Minnesota," the writer continues. Much of the narrative is concerned with Hewitt, through whose efforts the Minnesota state board of health, the "fourth such agency in the United States," was created in 1872. His many accomplishments as its secretary in the quarter century that followed are reviewed in the present article.

New material on the railroad excursion of 1854, which marked the completion of the Rock Island Railroad to the Mississippi River and brought to Minnesota a group of distinguished American literary figures, businessmen, politicians, and scientists, is furnished by Dr. John F. Fulton of Yale University, who contributes to the March number of Minnesota Medicine extracts from the diary kept by one of the excursionists. He is Benjamin Silliman, Yale University scientist, whose biography Dr. Fulton published in 1947. The writer reveals in his introductory remarks that the Sheffield Scientific School, which Silliman helped found, was endowed by Joseph E. Sheffield, one of the two men who built the Rock Island road and arranged the excursion of 1854. Dr. Fulton's remarks, which he included in an address given before the Ramsey County Medical Society meeting in St. Paul on September 23, 1947, quote Silliman's impressions of St. Paul and the Falls of St. Anthony.

The completion of a "Century of Railroading in West" by the Chicago and North Western Railroad is the occasion for the publication of a feature article about its history by Kenneth Crouse in the magazine section of the St. Paul Pioneer Press for February 29. The writer tells how the building of the road's first tracks running westward from Chicago and the operation of its first locomotive, the "Pioneer," in the late months of 1848 marked the beginnings of the century-old railway. Special attention is given to the subsidiary road known as the Omaha, for it has its headquarters in St. Paul and its history is reflected in a local museum. "A Brief History of the Chicago and North Western Railway System in Minnesota" has been compiled by the railroad and issued in mimeographed form. In commemoration of its centenary the railway company has prepared a "Centennial Train" which is carrying the story
of the road into fifty-eight communities in eight states. This traveling museum includes a car of historical exhibits depicting the growth of the railroad, and the original “Pioneer” of 1848. In Minnesota it will be on display in New Ulm on May 26 and on later dates in Mankato, Rochester, Winona, and Duluth, with final showings in St. Paul and Minneapolis on June 20 and 21.

In the preparation of an article on “Minnesota and the Northwestern Mutual,” appearing in the Milwaukee life insurance company’s Field Notes for September, 1947, David J. Behling draws upon some interesting and informing correspondence in the concern’s business papers. The writer found that “many letters from Minnesota citizens were received in 1859 by the Company inquiring about the prospects of obtaining policies.” In the spring of 1861, the company’s agent visited southern Minnesota, and through his efforts a Rochester editor “agreed to take a policy, paying first premium of $20.00 in advertising for agents in his paper.” As a result, the first resident Minnesota agent was appointed and began to write insurance for the company. The panic resulting from the Sioux War in August, 1862, caused another agent to leave Rochester by stagecoach in “too great a rush to even attempt any business.” In later years a number of Minnesotans, including Charles Scheffer and Henry H. Sibley, became members of the board of trustees of the Wisconsin company.

The first of a series of articles about the granite industry of central Minnesota, which this year is commemorating “80 years of progress,” appears in the St. Cloud Daily Times for January 14. The beginnings of the industry are stressed in the opening article, which recalls that “early in the spring of 1868, the first stone was quarried from a ledge now enclosed within the grey walls of the Minnesota state reformatory, in Sherburne county.” An appropriate marker has been erected on the site. The second article of the series, published on February 4, reminds the reader that “St. Cloud is the site of the Minnesota state reformatory because of granite.” The use of Minnesota granite in structures throughout the nation and the impressive growth of the industry are the subjects of two additional articles published on March 16 and 31.

Much of an article on the “Drama of the Iron Range,” appearing in the January issue of the U. S. Steel News, is devoted to the low-grade ores of the western end of the Mesabi Range. Methods of concentrating
such ore, which is known as tonconite, are described, and the pioneer efforts of D. C. Jackling and other scientists in making it commercially practical are reviewed. Illustrating the article are some excellent views of open pit mines and pictures of the Oliver Iron Mining Company's concentrating plant at Trout Lake.

That the publishing firm of H. W. Wilson Company of New York had its origin in a University of Minnesota bookstore in 1898 is brought out in an article which calls attention to its fiftieth anniversary, appearing in the *Minnesota Alumnus* for January. While he was a student in the university, Mr. Halsey W. Wilson "established a book service in the Old Main building on the campus to help defray expenses and later he started a small retail bookstore just a block away," reads the account. It was from this store, across University Avenue from the campus, that Mr. Wilson issued the first copies of his *Cumulative Book Index*. Other guides and catalogues published by the firm had their origin in the Minneapolis bookshop in the years that elapsed before the publishing house removed to White Plains, New York, in 1913.

In connection with the Charter Day exercises of the University of Minnesota, held on the campus on February 19, Mr. Fred B. Snyder, chairman of the board of regents since 1914, was designated a "Builder of the Name" and was presented with a medal in recognition of the honor. The program issued for the occasion calls attention to the university's ninety-seventh birthday, lists its founders and builders, and reviews Mr. Snyder's career.

In 1857 "the southwestern corner of Minnesota . . . was a mythical empire of thriving ghost towns and villages—ghost towns which, in fact, had never been born," writes Gareth Hiebert in the magazine section of the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for March 7. He points out that the "Ghost Towns That Never Were Born" and their fictitious inhabitants were listed in the special census of 1857, taken to provide proof that Minnesota's population had attained sufficient size to warrant its admission as a state. Most of Mr. Hiebert's remarks are based upon an article by Robert J. Forrest published in this magazine in 1933 (see ante, 14:243-262).

Two of the five writers discussed by Maxwell Geismar in *The Last of the Provincials: The American Novel, 1915-1925* (Boston, 1947) are Minnesotans—"Sinclair Lewis: The Cosmic Bourjoyce" and "F. Scott
Fitzgerald: Orestes at the Ritz." Bibliographies of the writings of both men are included in the volume.

A valuable contribution to Northwest bibliography has been made by the Bibliographical Society of America in sponsoring a volume of *Dakota Imprints, 1858–1889* edited by Albert H. Allen (New York, 1947, 221 p.). The list, the editor points out in his introduction, "contains a total of 774 titles from the presses of Dakota Territory and of the two Dakotas for a period of 32 years, from the first recorded appearance of the press there in 1858 through the year 1889." The fact that North and South Dakota had a common territorial background provided a unique problem of arrangement in the preparation of the bibliography. A useful feature of the work is an "Index of Printing Points, Presses and Printer’s."  

The expulsion of the Sioux from Minnesota after the outbreak of 1862 and their removal to a reservation in Dakota Territory figure in Sister Mary Claudia Duratschek’s recent volume entitled *Crusading Along Sioux Trails: A History of the Catholic Indian Missions of South Dakota* (1947). Special attention is given to the work of the Catholic missionaries among both Sioux and Winnebago who were removed from Minnesota. The opening chapter of the work deals with “First Contacts,” many of which were made in Minnesota, between explorers and Indians.

As its contribution to the Wisconsin centennial, the *Milwaukee Sentinel* is publishing in installments in its Sunday pictorial section a history of the state by August Derleth entitled “History Passed This Way.” After opening with a general introduction in the *Sentinel* of February 8, the narrative continues with weekly chapters in which Mr. Derleth follows the “trail of Wisconsin history from one community to another.” Among the early sections are those dealing with Green Bay, Prairie du Chien, and Portage. Each chapter is accompanied by appropriate illustrations.

The University of Wisconsin has set up a committee on the study of American civilization which is supported by funds from the humanities division of the Rockefeller Foundation. The committee is sponsoring a series of studies in the biographical, political, economic, and cultural history of the state and of the region of which it is a part. Post-doctoral grants are available for people who are engaged in such studies and who would like to utilize the facilities of the libraries of the University of Wisconsin and the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. The committee
invites proposals from interested scholars. Correspondence should be addressed to Professor Merrill Jensen, Bascom Hall, University of Wisconsin, Madison 5.

Scores of maps, pictures, manuscripts, books, and similar materials of Northwest and Minnesota significance are included in a catalogue of the Iowa Centennial Exhibition on view in the Library of Congress from December 28, 1946, to April 27, 1947. Printed in the catalogue (84 p.) is the text of an address on "'Ioway' and Iowa in History," presented at the opening of the display by Senator Bourke B. Hickenlooper of Iowa. Indicative of the wide interest of the exhibit is the appearance both in his remarks and in the catalogue proper of such names as Louis Hennepin, Jonathan Carver, George Catlin, Zebulon M. Pike, Stephen H. Long, Henry R. Schoolcraft, J. N. Nicollet, Albert Lea, and many others. The Iowa centennial marked the one-hundredth anniversary of statehood of Minnesota's neighbor to the south.

Based upon the contemporary journal of a "young man from Ohio" is a descriptive account of "The Upper Mississippi in 1840" contributed by O. E. Klingaman to the January issue of the Annals of Iowa. Starting from Cincinnati, the anonymous traveler followed the Ohio to its mouth, and then voyaged up the Mississippi as far as the Falls of St. Anthony. The passages quoted from the journal contain comments on the Sioux villages of Wabasha and Red Wing, the American Fur Company's post at St. Peter's, Fort Snelling, and the falls, where, the traveler believed, a great resort would develop, "superseding fashionable watering places" in the East.

Leola Nelson Bergmann contributes to the Iowa Journal of History and Politics for January a detailed study of "The Negro in Iowa." Her story falls naturally into two parts, with the Civil War and emancipation forming a logical dividing point. Much of the earlier section of the narrative deals with fugitive slaves and the problems arising out of their appearance in Iowa. Statistical information is presented and Negro contributions to Iowa life and culture are discussed in the second section.

Much of the space in the December issue of Michigan History is devoted to the story of Dutch settlement in Michigan, and particularly to the history of Holland, which marked its centennial in 1947. An address by Marten ten Hoor on "The Dutch Colonists and American Democracy," presented as a feature of a centennial program at Holland,
appears as the leading article in the issue; it is followed by a sketch of a prominent member of the Holland community, "Gerrit J. Diekema: Orator," by William Schrier. Four reminiscent narratives by pioneer Hollanders or their descendants have been edited for the number by Henry S. Lucas and published under the general title "Dutch Settlement in Michigan: 1850–1940." Some early history of the Holland settlement is reviewed by Marvin Lindeman in an article entitled "A Non-Hollander Looks at Holland." In the same issue Hjalmar R. Holand replies to Milo M. Quaife's article on "The Kensington Myth Once More," which was published in Michigan History for June, 1947. Mr. Holand presents his arguments in favor of the authenticity of the Minnesota record in a discussion which he labels "The Truth about the Kensington Stone."

"Manuel Lisa's Warehouse" at St. Louis, the "last physical remnant of the old fur-trading community on the river," is the subject of an interesting article by Charles E. Peterson in the January Bulletin of the Missouri Historical Society. The history of the structure, which probably was built in 1818, is traced in some detail, and its recent restoration by the National Park Service is described. With the narrative are four documents of 1820 that reflect the affairs of Lisa and the Missouri Fur Company. Four pages are devoted to illustrations picturing the warehouse at various stages in its history. The newly designed cover of the Bulletin features a pen-and-ink portrait of Lisa.

Steamboats arriving at St. Louis from Lake Pepin, Prairie du Chien, and other points on the upper Mississippi are mentioned in occasional entries of "William Clark's Diary" for the period from May, 1826, to February, 1831, which has been edited by Louise Barry for publication in the Kansas Historical Quarterly for February. The "Diary" is in the form of an office record kept by Clark and members of his staff when he was superintendent of Indian affairs at St. Louis. Miss Barry points out that "in it were entered weather and river data, notes on steamboat arrivals and departures, a record of Indians visiting the superintendency, and some items of general and local news."

History in the Community

In its issue for March 4, the history of the Chisago County Press of Lindstrom is traced back to March 4, 1898, when the first issue of a
Swedish newspaper known as Medborgaren was printed in the rear of a blacksmith shop at Lindstrom. The Swedish sheet, the writer records, was the earliest of three papers which consolidated in 1905 to form the present Press.

That the Red River community of “Georgetown was originally set up as a trading post in 1859 by the Hudson’s Bay Company” is brought out in a “History of Georgetown” the first installment of which appears in the Clay Sunday Press of Moorhead for January 10. The writer believes that letters in the company’s archives for 1859 mentioning a newly established post near the Sheyenne and Buffalo rivers refer to Georgetown.

A brief history of the village of Kiester in Faribault County is included in a booklet issued to commemorate the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Evangelical United Brethren Church founded there in 1897. Its pastor, the Reverend George P. Campbell, compiled the material presented in the pamphlet. The history of the community is traced back to 1865, when the earliest settlers acquired land on the present site. Many views of the town, the church, and its members illustrate the booklet.

An editorial on “Centennials,” published in the Little Falls Daily Transcript for February 11, calls attention to the fact that “For Little Falls 1948 could be a year in which we proudly point out what has been done and a year in which we look to the future with confidence that our advance has not been stopped.” The writer notes that the year should “be the occasion for an observance outshining all others in the history of our community.”

The golden anniversary of the Church of St. James at Randall, which was marked with special services on August 27, 1947, has been commemorated in a more permanent manner by the publication of a booklet entitled Fifty Years of Faithful Service, 1897–1947 (43 p.). It includes accounts of the founding of the Catholic parish of St. James and of the building of the church at Randall, a list of the pioneer parishioners, sketches of parish priests and prominent members of the congregation, and “historical notes” about the community.

The history of the First Methodist Church of Rochester is briefly outlined by decades in the program issued to commemorate its ninetieth
anniversary. The record reveals that the church was organized in February, 1857, and that the congregation erected a chapel in 1858.

"St. Paul Library System Founded in 1857" reads the heading of an article by Will Reeves in the St. Paul Pioneer Press for March 28, which gives emphasis to the fact that the library "played big part in city's cultural growth." The present institution's origin is traced back to the Mercantile Library Association of territorial days, the steps by which it developed are outlined, and the personalities who contributed to its growth are mentioned. With the article appear pictures of some of the buildings that housed the library before the present structure was occupied in 1916.

The Amherst H. Wilder Charity of St. Paul is described as "one of the most unusual philanthropies in America" in the St. Paul Pioneer Press for February 22, which recalls its origin and outlines its history under the title "Oxcarts Built Unique Charity." The foundations for Wilder's fortune were laid after his arrival in St. Paul in 1859, when he went into partnership with J. C. and H. C. Burbank in the Red River trade, according to the present account. Wilder accumulated vast wealth, which since the deaths of his heirs has provided for St. Paul a "distinctive type of service that does not duplicate the efforts of other social agencies."

Brief biographies of the members of a Norwegian colony of the late 1860's in southern Minnesota and accounts of their experiences on the frontier make up a booklet of Pioneer Sketches from Webster, Rice County, Minnesota edited for publication by N. N. Rønning (1947. 28 p.). He points out that many of the Norwegian pioneers who eventually settled at Webster went first to Goodhue County, where they worked on farms until they earned enough to buy equipment of their own.

The story of "Early Logging in the Buhl Area" is recorded by John C. Wadd in the Buhl-Kinney Herald for January 22. The writer describes the operations of such concerns as the Machek, Swan River, Cloquet, and Virginia and Rainy Lake lumber companies, and he pictures the activities that centered in some of their camps. He tells also of the homestead on which his father, John A. Wadd, settled in 1905 and of the logging activities which he and members of his family conducted in the vicinity.
A report on the activities of the Anoka County Centennial committee was presented by its chairman, Mr. Carl E. Bonnell, before a meeting of the Anoka County Historical Society on March 8. Miss Edith Patch and Mrs. Octavia Smith told of the part the county schools will play in the Centennial.

The Chippewa County Historical Society is sponsoring an essay contest, which is open to pupils in the seventh and eighth grades and in the high schools of the county. For the best essays on local history submitted before May 15 prizes consisting of trips to St. Paul with visits to the Capitol and the Historical Building are being offered. Members of the society gathered in Montevideo on January 9 to hear Mr. Richard R. Sackett, deputy director of the Minnesota Territorial Centennial, explain plans for the celebration of 1949.

A survey of Chisago County history, presented by Richard R. Sackett before a meeting of the local historical society at Center City on November 3, 1947, is printed in full in the *Chisago County Press* of Lindstrom for January 15.

Two centuries of Minnesota history were reviewed before a meeting of the Cook County Historical Society on January 23 by Willoughby M. Babcock, curator of newspapers for the Minnesota Historical Society. The program emphasized the contributions to Minnesota history of various racial groups, especially those constituting the United Nations. An extensive series of displays, illustrating the contributions to American life made by the various national groups, was arranged in connection with the meeting. It is described in the *Cook County News-Herald* of January 29.

The activities of the Junior Historians were featured at a meeting of the Dakota County Historical and Archaeological Society held in South St. Paul on February 10. Miss Louise Spaeth of the state Centennial office in St. Paul was the speaker. Prominent characters in the history of the county were impersonated by members of the local Junior Historian chapter.

A recent addition to the list of Minnesota's local historical organizations is the Freeborn County Historical Society, which was organized at
Albert Lea on January 8. Twenty-three charter members attended the initial meeting; they adopted a constitution and elected the following officers: L. W. Spicer, president, Dr. A. Gullixson and Carl Lunde, vice-presidents, and William H. Sykes, secretary-treasurer. Attention was called to the new society and its officers were introduced at a “Pioneers’ Dinner” held in Albert Lea on February 10 under the sponsorship of the local Chamber of Commerce. Among the two hundred and fifty guests who attended were pioneer farmers, businessmen, and creamery operators of the area. Plans for Freeborn County’s participation in the Minnesota Territorial Centennial of 1949 were outlined, and the statewide celebration was discussed by Richard R. Sackett, its deputy director.

Among the recent acquisitions of the Grant County Historical Society is a history of the West Elbow Lake Lutheran Church, which was founded in 1873. Accompanying the narrative, which was prepared and presented by Mr. J. P. Brendal, is a copy of the congregation’s constitution.

In the January number of *Hennepin County History*, Mr. Dana W. Frear, president of the Hennepin County Historical Society, calls attention to its tenth anniversary. The accomplishments of “Our First Ten Years” are surveyed in the opening editorial. The society’s annual meeting, which was held in Minneapolis on January 27, featured an address by Mr. Fred B. Snyder, chairman of the board of regents of the University of Minnesota. Appropriately, he took as his subject the “Early History of the University,” with which he has been associated since he enrolled as a student in 1875. At a meeting of the society’s board of directors, held early in February, Mr. Joseph Zalusky was named president. Other officers include Mr. Guy Alexander, vice-president, Mr. Leland F. Leland, treasurer, and Mr. Edward Haynes, corresponding secretary. The retiring president of the society, Mr. Frear, now holds the office of historian.

A report issued by the Jackson County Historical Society in February reveals that since its organization in October, 1946, it has enrolled more than two hundred members, including fifty-five life members. In its first year of activity, the society arranged a summer meeting that attracted some five hundred people, and it displayed appropriate pioneer and Indian items at the county fair. The organization now has asked for museum space in the courthouse at Jackson, it plans to mark historic sites in the county, and it is assembling biographical data about local residents.
The Lac qui Parle County Historical Society was organized at a meeting held in Dawson on February 23. A constitution was adopted and the following officers were elected: Mrs. Nelson W. Mongrain, president, G. E. Roehl, vice-president, Melvin S. Wroolie, secretary, and Wayne W. Weiser, treasurer. Mr. Richard R. Sackett addressed the meeting, describing the coming Territorial Centennial celebration and suggesting what the county historical societies can do to make the event a success. The society's officers met on March 18 to sign the constitution, affiliate with the Minnesota Historical Society, choose a board of directors, select corresponding secretaries in the various townships of the county, and plan a membership drive. The corresponding secretaries are listed in the April 2 issues of the *Dawson Sentinel* and the *Independent Press* of Madison.

The need for a Mille Lacs County historical society is stressed in an editorial in the *Milaca Times* for February 12. The approaching Centennial commemoration, the editor points out, gives new significance to Mille Lacs County's colorful background of exploration, logging, and settlement, and emphasizes the need for preserving its records.

The Mower County Pioneer Association, which was organized in the summer of 1947, is undertaking to raise funds for a museum building on the county fair grounds at Austin. Through the sale of life memberships at ten dollars each, the new organization hopes to raise ten thousand dollars for its "Pioneer Building," a fireproof structure designed for the preservation of records of local history. Mr. Richard Rahilly is president of the association; serving with him are eight directors.

The Olmsted County Historical Society, its organization and its development, was the subject of the opening program of the "Southern Minnesota School of the Air," broadcast over station KROC of Rochester on January 5. It was followed by weekly programs on such topics as local pioneer life, frontier conditions in Olmsted County, and township history. Among those participating in the series were officers of the society, including Mrs. B. T. Willson and Mr. Ernest H. Schlitgus. The series, which was announced in the January number of the society's *Quarterly News Bulletin*, was intended primarily for pupils in rural schools. The issue notes that nearly three thousand people visited the society's museum in the last three months of 1947; among them was Dr. Solon J. Buck, archivist of the United States, who, as superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society, helped organize the Olmsted County group in 1926.
A talk on the Minnesota Territorial Centennial and local participation in the celebration by Richard R. Sackett was a feature of a meeting of the Pope County Historical Society at Glenwood on February 10. A report on additions to the society's collections was presented by Miss Olive Barsness.

Early in 1948 the St. Anthony Park Area Historical Association issued a five-page newsletter, presenting reports on its spring and fall meetings of 1947, notes on recent gifts received by the organization, extracts from its correspondence, and a list of new members. Those who attended the association's meeting on February 15 enjoyed an "Old Time Sunday Afternoon Musicale," with a program made up of musical selections that were popular half a century ago.

The appointment of a Centennial committee by the Roseau County Historical Society was announced in January by A. H. Fikkan, president of the organization. Members of the committee are listed in the Roseau Times-Region for January 22.

"St. Cloud as the Gateway into Stearns County History" was the title of a paper read by Dr. H. B. Clark at a meeting of the Stearns County Historical Society held in St. Cloud on January 29. The history of the society was traced by its secretary, Miss Dora Perry, who announced that its museum is open to visitors on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons and on Saturday mornings. An earlier old settlers' association, which was organized at St. Joseph in 1896, was described by Mrs. L. F. Cary. The speaker based her remarks upon the minute books of the association. The society's president, Mr. Glanville Smith, who presided, urged county newspapers to publish annual community chronologies that might serve as contemporary historical records, and reported upon the progress of Centennial plans in Stearns County.

At a meeting held in Wheaton on February 25, plans for the organization of a Traverse County historical society were drafted and a committee was appointed to arouse interest in the project. It is expected that the society will cooperate with the Traverse County Centennial committee in planning and staging local participation in the state celebration. Mr. Richard R. Sackett attended the Wheaton meeting and explained the significance of the Minnesota Centennial.
To assist in promoting local Centennial plans, the Wadena County Historical Society was organized at Wadena on February 3. The organization has long been needed in Wadena County, and its leaders feel that it will continue to serve the locality long after 1949. Mrs. Boyd Conley of Verndale was elected president of the new society; Judge L. H. Pettit of Wadena is vice-president; and Mr. Albert Lehman of Wadena was named secretary-treasurer.

Judge Clarence R. Magney, a member of the executive council of the Minnesota Historical Society, was the principal speaker on a program presented before the Washington County Historical Society in Stillwater on February 14. "What I Know of the St. Croix Valley" was Judge Magney’s subject. Announcement was made of the joint plans of the county society and the Stillwater Association for commemorating on August 26, 1948, the centennial of the Stillwater Convention.

The Swedish Pioneer Centennial

During 1948 thousands of Americans of Swedish descent living in the great Middle West will celebrate the one-hundredth anniversary of the arrival of the first Swedish pioneers in the Mississippi Valley. Although there were a few Swedes in the region some years earlier—among them Minnesota’s first Swede, Jacob Falstrom—the real migration to the Middle West did not begin until the late 1840’s.

The federal census of 1850 for Minnesota lists only four Swedes who were residing in the territory at that time. Falstrom lived in Stillwater precinct of Washington County with his mixed-blood wife and five children. Sareen Williamson, a musician with the United States Army, was stationed at Fort Snelling. Lurtz Johnson, a laborer who was born in Sweden, resided in Stillwater precinct; and Henry Melander, a farmer, was living at Long Prairie in what was known as Wahnhta County. A few months after the census was taken the scattered Swedes began receiving reinforcements, and by 1851 quite a number were making their way up the river. In that year the renowned Swedish feminist and intellectual, Fredrika Bremer, went to Minnesota to pay her respects to the new territory.

As a prelude to its own Centennial, Minnesota will play a very important part in the Swedish Pioneer Centennial. Governor Luther W. Youngdahl, on his recent visit to Sweden, took to the country which sent a large percentage of its sons and daughters to the Middle West a
personal invitation to attend the celebration in the North Star State. The Swedish government will honor the contribution of its nationals to Minnesota and other states in the Mississippi Valley by sending to the Centennial an official delegation of leading Swedish citizens, headed by Prince Bertil, the second son of the crown prince. The delegation will visit Minnesota from June 25 to 28 and will participate in a series of events in the Twin Cities, reaching a climax on Sunday, June 27, when Svenskarnas Dag will be celebrated at the State Fair grounds in St. Paul. One of the highlights of the celebration in St. Paul will be the unveiling of a marker to commemorate Falstrom’s contributions to Minnesota’s early development.

Other Swedish Centennial celebrations will be held in Chicago, Des Moines, Omaha, Detroit, Escanaba, Rockford, Rock Island, and Moline.

NILS WILLIAM OLSSON

As one feature of Minnesota’s participation in the Swedish Pioneer Centennial, members of the royal party will visit the Historical Building on the morning of June 26 and will view the special exhibits depicting the life of Swedish pioneers in the upper Mississippi Valley. The centennial is marked in the present issue of this magazine by the publication of Roy Swanson’s article on “Ola Värmlänning.”

**CENTENNIAL NEWS**

The writer of an editorial in the *Minneapolis Star* for January 15 raises the question “Why a Territorial Fete?” and answers it by declaring that the “most colorful period of Minnesota’s development occurred while it was a territory.” He calls attention to some of the more picturesque features of the nine-year era—a rush of settlement “comparable to the gold rush in California,” a series of Indian treaties, and the railroad excursion of 1854, to name a few. “A territorial celebration in 1949 is entirely appropriate and every citizen should make it his business to see that the observance is a lusty success in keeping with our territorial beginnings,” the writer concludes.

“All eyes will be focused on the state” during the Territorial Centennial of 1949, reads an editorial in the *Grand Meadow Record* for March 11. “Minnesota will get more attention nationally—and more newspaper print—in this one year than it can hope for in the next ten,” the editor continues. “That is why county Centennial Committees are
fast setting up shop to make plans and arrange programs to attract visitors and travelers from all over the states. We should not ignore the enormous possibilities for trade, traffic and growth in the Centennial year." The editor gives special attention to the "seven significant dates" of 1849 that "marked the development of organized government in Minnesota and established its political existence."

Mr. Harold Searls, pageant director of the Minnesota Territorial Centennial, is the author of "Minnesota, Hail to Thee!," a pageant script recently issued in mimeographed form by the Centennial committee (1948. 14 p.). In his foreword, Mr. Searls points out that although the script was prepared for indoor pageantry, "by increasing the cast of characters and adding to stage properties, it can be adapted easily to outdoor showing." Events of state-wide interest are stressed, but the arrangement is such that local happenings can be added without detracting from the general theme. High schools, public libraries, county Centennial committee chairmen, county fair board secretaries, and other community leaders who wish to promote and stage pageants in 1949 may obtain copies of the script by writing to the Centennial office in the Historical Building, St. Paul. Mr. Searls is preparing a second script for use by elementary schools and junior clubs.

Chairmen of county Centennial committees and others interested in plans for the 1949 celebration assembled in the Center for Continuation Study at the University of Minnesota on March 30 and 31 for an institute on the Minnesota Territorial Centennial. Thirty-three counties were represented. Members of the staff of the Minnesota Historical Society, of the Centennial office, and of various Centennial committees participated in the discussion. Among the topics examined were "The Centennial Plan and Its Fulfillment," pageants, radio programs, publicity, historical exhibits, local historical societies and the Centennial, the Centennial and the schools, the fine arts and the Centennial, agriculture and the Centennial, and the Minnesota State Fair and the Centennial.

The opening session of the 1948 spring conference of the Minnesota Council for the Social Studies, held on the campus of the University of Minnesota on March 5, was devoted to "Minnesota's Centennial and the Social Studies." Participating in the program were the chairman of the Minnesota Historical Society's school committee, Dr. Horace T. Morse, and three members of the Centennial staff, Robert Brown, Miss Dorothy Foss, and Miss Margaret O'Farrell.
The Minnesota territorial seal of 1849 will be the model for the first of a series of special cachets to be used during the Minnesota Territorial Centennial year. A committee composed of Mr. John W. Shay and Mr. John R. Coan of Minneapolis and Mr. Roy W. Swanson of St. Paul is planning the cachet designs and arranging for their use. The territorial seal, which was designed by Colonel J. J. Abert and Captain Seth Eastman, is the subject of a feature article entitled "When Minnesota's Sun Set in East," appearing in the magazine section of the St. Paul Pioneer Press for March 28.

An act authorizing a three-cent commemorative stamp for the Minnesota Centennial has been passed by both houses of Congress and signed by the President. The stamp will be issued on March 3, 1949, the one-hundredth anniversary of territorial organization. Although both houses passed a bill providing for a commemorative fifty-cent piece, the President vetoed the act. Plans are now under way for designing and striking a Centennial medallion to be cast in bronze.

On January 23, Dean J. M. Nolte, the Centennial director, explained and described the plans for the 1949 celebration before the eighty-second annual convention of the Minnesota Editorial Association, meeting in St. Paul.

A talk on the Minnesota Territorial Centennial by Richard R. Sackett was a feature of a program presented before some four hundred people who attended a dinner meeting of the Minnesota Finnish-American Historical Society in Virginia on February 7. "Minnesota state centennial year is 1949," read an announcement on the printed program. It was followed by the statement, "Let us make our part in it worthwhile."

In fifty-five of Minnesota's eighty-seven counties Centennial chairmen had been named before March 1 and activities looking toward local celebrations had been inaugurated. Local committees had been named by the chairmen in twenty-nine counties.

The restoration of the house built near Sacred Heart by Joseph R. Brown is one of the objectives of the Renville County Centennial committee, which was organized at Olivia on March 8. This attractive frontier home was destroyed by the Indians during the Sioux War of 1862, and only a few walls remain to indicate its original location.
News of the Minnesota Historical Society

Dr. Carlton C. Qualey, who succeeded Major Arthur J. Larsen as superintendent of the society and editor of its publications on July 15, 1947, has announced his resignation. For members of the society and readers of its quarterly, Dr. Qualey has written the following message: “It was with great regret that the secretary-superintendent of the society found it necessary to submit his resignation, effective on June 30, 1948. He will resume full-time duties as professor of American history in Carleton College, Northfield. As a life member of the society, he will continue to be of every possible help in forwarding its best interests.”

The present issue of Minnesota History is unique in one respect, for it contains the first illustration in full color ever to appear in the society's quarterly. The magazine's regular budget could not cover the cost involved in making four-color plates and printing this copy of Francis Lee Jaques’ magnificent painting of the “Picture Rock of Crooked Lake.” Its appearance in this issue was made possible only by a generous donation from a member of the society. Readers will doubtless be glad to know that the reproduction of Mr. Jaques’ canvas and Miss Nute's historical sketch of the scene depicted are to be reprinted in a pamphlet. Copies of the booklet may be purchased from the society for twenty-five cents each. The original painting by Mr. Jaques is an important recent addition to the society’s collections. It is now on view in the museum on the third floor of the Historical Building.

The index for volume 28 of Minnesota History is now in press; it will be ready for distribution about July 1. Any member of the society or subscriber to its publications may obtain a copy free of charge upon request. Bound copies of volume 28 will be available later in the summer. To those who return the four issues of the quarterly published in 1947, the price will be $1.25, postpaid.

For the Forest Products History Foundation, Dr. Rodney C. Loehr, its director, investigated operations in forestry and visited lumber companies in Arkansas, Louisiana, Mississippi, Alabama, and Tennessee in the last half of March. His first stop after leaving St. Paul on March 15 was at Crossett, Arkansas, where he saw the Crossett Forest Experiment Station. Miss Lucile Kane of the foundation’s staff was in Washington from January 20 to March 30. Much of her time while there was spent
in examining and studying the records relating to timberlands in the Great Lakes area to be found in the natural resources division of the National Archives.

The society's librarian, Mr. Russell F. Barnes, will teach two courses in library reference work at the University of Minnesota during the first summer session.

Serving temporarily as field director on the staff of the society is Mr. Arch Grahn. He was appointed to fill the vacancy left by Mr. Richard Sackett when the latter was granted a leave of absence to serve as deputy director of the Centennial. Mr. Grahn's chief concern will be the organization of county historical societies.

Dean Nolte's article on "The Territorial Centennial of 1949," which appeared in the March issue of this magazine, has been reprinted in pamphlet form. Copies may be obtained from the Centennial office.

From the National Archives in Washington the society has received a photostatic copy of the original act to establish Minnesota Territory. It was introduced in Congress on December 4, 1848. The document is of special interest in connection with the Territorial Centennial commemoration now in progress.

A valuable collection of manuscripts, scrapbooks, pamphlets, pictures, and similar materials relating to the career of John Banvard, famed for his panorama of the Mississippi River, has been received from the estate of his daughter, Miss Edith Banvard of St. Paul, who died in February. Of outstanding significance is a scrapbook containing press notices of Banvard's Mississippi panorama, clipped from American, British, and French newspapers of the 1840's and 1850's. There are a number of autograph letters containing comments on Banvard's work by Charles Dickens, Edward Everett, J. C. Frémont, and other figures of note. Poetry inspired by the Mississippi panorama fills a folder. Of value to genealogists are Banvard and Goodnow family records, some of which were compiled by Miss Banvard. The collection includes editions previously lacking in the society's library of the text that accompanied the panorama (Boston, 1848) and of Banvard's Adventures of an Artist. With the gift are five small oil paintings by Banvard, a colored lithograph of 1861 of his picture "The Orison," and a number of unusual early Christmas cards. Shortly before her death, Miss Banvard presented a handkerchief, beautifully framed, on which is printed an early portrait of her father.
A diary kept by Charles Gould on an overland trip from Walpole, Massachusetts, to Sutter, California, during the gold rush of 1849 is the gift of the diarist's grandson, Mr. L. A. Rossman of Grand Rapids. The record, which fills two small volumes, continues to 1852, when the writer returned to the East by way of Panama.

A number of articles reminiscent of Ozora P. Stearns's service as colonel of the Thirty-ninth United States Colored Infantry in the Civil War have been presented by Mrs. Benton H. Stearns of Knoxville, Kentucky. Among them are a roster of the regiment, an outline of its services, portraits of its officers, and a handsome presentation sword. Stearns lived at Rochester and Duluth before his death in 1896.

Two small household account books kept by Mrs. Rudolph H. Fitz at St. Paul in 1861, 1863, and 1864 are included in a box of family papers presented by her grandson, Mr. H. Dudley Fitz of Fairmont. Among the items entered by Mrs. Fitz were two dozen eggs at thirty cents, eight quarts of milk at twenty-five cents, two ducks at forty cents, and her maid's salary of six dollars a month. The frontier housewife came to Minnesota in the 1850's with her husband, a pioneer contractor and builder who was responsible for many of St. Paul's early buildings and bridges.

Social and economic conditions in St. Paul in the 1860's are pictured in two interesting letters recently presented by the Misses Jeanette and Julia McMasters of St. Paul. Their grandmother, Mrs. Julia R. McMasters, wrote the letters while residing in the Minnesota capital as the wife of an Episcopal clergyman. From her home, located in the heart of the present business district of St. Paul, Mrs. McMasters wrote on July 25, 1866: "The remoteness of this place from the great commercial emporiums and the severe and protracted winters, make everything very high. We buy all our milk and butter, the latter at forty-five cents a pound, winter and summer. Having neither our own well or cistern, we buy all our water, with the exception of what we catch in barrels or draw occasionally from a neighbor's well."

The household expenses of numerous Minneapolis families in 1875 are suggested in a grocer's order book for that year, recently presented by Mr. Charles Mason of Minneapolis. It was kept by Sidney Smith, who ran a grocery store on Nicollet Avenue. There, the order book reveals, Minnesotians could purchase a half bushel of potatoes for twenty
cents, two chickens for sixty cents, and five pounds of butter for a dollar and a half.

Several letters written to James K. Hosmer of Minneapolis have been added to the society's collection of papers of the distinguished historian and librarian by his grandson, Mr. D. H. Ankeny of Minneapolis. Among the correspondents represented by autograph letters in the present group are Phillips Brooks, Edward E. Hale, William Dean Howells, and John Fiske. The latter, writing on August 24, 1882, comments upon Hosmer's biography of Samuel Adams, then in preparation. An earlier work on the subject Fiske describes as "clumsy, verbose, and full of repetitions." He then continues, "There is room for a good book on this subject. It is a good field for you."

Records of law suits in which the Chicago, Burlington, and Northern Railway Company was involved from 1884 to 1886, consisting of correspondence and court records and filling four filing boxes, are the gifts of Mr. Milton C. Lightner of St. Paul. The papers are part of the office files of Young and Lightner, a law firm that handled the railroad's legal affairs in the years covered by the suits.

Daily domestic and agricultural life at Mountain Lake from 1914 to 1916 is described in the diary of Mrs. Herman J. Fast of that community, recently copied for the society on microfilm. The original diary, which is written in German, was loaned by Mr. John B. Fast of Mountain Lake. A later diary, kept by Mrs. Fast from 1916 to 1920, was copied in 1937 (see ante, 18:445).

Of genealogical interest is a photostatic copy of the Sibley family record in the family Bible, presented by the Sibley House Association. The Sibley House, which is maintained by the Minnesota Daughters of the American Revolution, owns the original Bible containing these records.

The custom of giving books to the society as memorials has been adopted by several organizations and has resulted in many valuable additions to the genealogical collections of the library. During the past winter The Hazen Family in America by Tracy E. Hazen (Thomaston, Connecticut, 1947. 1,175 p.), The Holcombs by Hannah E. McPherson (Washington, D.C., 1947. 1,346 p.), and Philip Welch of Ipswich, Massachusetts, 1654, and His Descendants by Alexander M. Welch (Richmond, Virginia, 1947. 354 p.) were given to the library by the

Keys to unlock the rich stores of material buried in magazines and local histories were received in recent months in the form of indexes. Among them are volume 2 of the *Index to Genealogical Periodicals* by Donald L. Jacobus (New Haven, Connecticut, 1948. 152 p.); a *Subject Index of the New York Genealogical and Biographical Record* for volumes 39 to 76, compiled by Gertrude A. Barber (57 p.); and volumes 23 and 24 of the *American Genealogical Index*, in which surnames from Littlefield to McKeeman are indexed.

Who's Who in This Issue

Mr. Roy Swanson, whose essay on "Ola Varmlanning: A Swedish Immigrant Folk Figure" appears herein as the society's contribution to the Swedish Pioneer Centennial, is librarian of the St. Paul Dispatch-Pioneer Press. He has had experience as an editorial writer and as newspaper librarian of the Minnesota Historical Society. In the past he has contributed not only to this magazine, but to the *Iowa Journal of History and Politics*, the *American-Swedish Monthly*, and the *Yearbook* of the Swedish Historical Society of America.

Those who read in the December issue the article on "Governor Ramsey and Frontier Minnesota" which the first territorial executive's daughter based upon his diary and letters will welcome a second contribution from the pen of Marion Ramsey Furness. The narrative published herewith under the title "Childhood Recollections of Old St. Paul" was found by Mrs. Furness' daughters among her papers. The original is in the form of notes written in longhand, which she used as the basis for an informal talk. It will be recalled that Mrs. Furness was born in St. Paul in 1853, and that, except for occasional periods of residence in Washington and short visits elsewhere, she spent much of her long life in the Minnesota capital.
The history of "The Picture Rock of Crooked Lake," a spot long familiar to those hardy and fortunate enough to penetrate Minnesota's northern border country, is sketched herein by Grace Lee Nute, research associate on the staff of the society and professor of history in Hamline University. Dr. Nute, whose writings include *The Voyageur's Highway* and *Caesars of the Wilderness*, has made a special study of the border lake country. The present sketch was written to accompany Francis Lee Jaques' colorful oil painting of the rock, recently acquired by the Minnesota Historical Society. Mr. Jaques is famed particularly for his bird paintings, his backgrounds for groups in the University of Minnesota Natural History Museum and the American Museum of Natural History in New York, and his delightful illustrations for the books written by his wife, Florence Page Jaques.

Dr. Harold T. Hagg is chairman of the division of social studies in the Bemidji State Teachers College. His interest in the community in which he lives led to the preparation of the present study as well as of an essay on "Bemidji: A Pioneer Community of the 1890's" which was published in this magazine in March, 1942.

Ten reviewers, half of whom are members of the society's staff, contribute to the present issue evaluations of newly published volumes in the fields of Minnesota and American history. They are Mr. Everett E. Edwards, editor of *Agricultural History* and agricultural historian in the United States department of agriculture; Professor Merrill Jensen of the history faculty in the University of Wisconsin; Dr. Henrietta M. Larson of the graduate school of business administration in Harvard University and the Business History Foundation; Dr. Rodney C. Loehr, director of the Forest Products History Foundation and assistant professor of history in the University of Minnesota; Dean J. M. Nolte of the University of Minnesota extension division, director of the Minnesota Territorial Centennial; Dr. Nute; Dr. Carlton C. Qualey, superintendent of the society and professor of American history in Carleton College; Mr. G. Hubert Smith, curator of the society's museum; Dr. Evadene Burris Swanson of University Park, Maryland; and Dr. Carl Wittke, dean of the graduate school and professor of history in Western Reserve University at Cleveland.

To the list of contributors should be added the name of Nils William Olsson of Chicago, who outlines in this issue plans for the Swedish Pioneer Centennial, of which he is executive secretary.