The Story of the Declaration of Independence.
By Dumas Malone. Pictures by Hirst Milhollem and Milton Kaplan. (New York, Oxford University Press, 1954. 282 p. Illustrations. $10.00.)

Reviewed by Theodore C. Blegen

BOTH IN ITS IDEAS of fundamental rights and in the vitality with which, from age to age, it lives in the minds and hearts of men, the Declaration of Independence is a great human document. This is true for all times, and not least for an era when dictators, bigotry, and intolerance flourish. To these the Declaration offers, as Dr. Malone says, an "eternal answer," not only through its emphasis on life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness, but also because it presents these as basic rights of human beings.

This book, with its compact and illuminating text and its array of more than two hundred and fifty illustrations, is one to be read and looked at and treasured. It is a "pictorial biography" of the document, text and pictures blending into a unified whole. The story of the Declaration, told briefly and simply by Dr. Malone, represents mature scholarship and understanding, but it makes no pretense of competing with the kind of philosophical and historical study of political ideas that Carl Becker offers in his book on The Declaration of Independence.

Here also we have the text of the document, richly illustrated biographical sketches of the signers, and a history of the physical document itself from its origins to its present sanctuary in the National Archives building in Washington. In recent years the makers of books have progressed far in the wedding of narrative and pictures; and this is one of the most effective examples of the art. It is a happy circumstance indeed that it deals with a central document of American history which has universal significance because of its flaming faith in human dignity.

SWEDEN AND AMERICA


Reviewed by Carlton C. Qualey

THE PUBLISHERS of this volume are to be congratulated upon the beauty of design which makes the book a pleasure to behold. To this more obvious virtue one may add others: a good deal of skill in the selection of material in order to compress the story of Swedish-American relations since Viking times into a little over a hundred pages of double-columned text, smoothness of narrative style, and nearly sixty illustrations of various types.

On the negative side it must be noted that the book has no index, and that the section entitled "Suggested Reading" is rather thin, especially in relation to emigration. Although the authors do not pretend to offer a full bibliography and although they do refer the reader to works containing bibliographies, it seems a needless oversight not to list Professor George M. Stephenson's important study of the Religious Aspects of Swedish Immigration. Furthermore, no mention is made of recently published books on Gustav Unions, although these volumes are advertised on the jacket.

MR. QUALEY is at present engaged in writing a history of European emigration to the United States. He is on leave from Carleton College, where he is professor of American history.
For all its brevity, the text of the book contains a surprising amount of succinctly phrased material. The Viking period is well summarized, and the colonial experiment of New Sweden is more fully treated. In the latter chapter the story of Swedish-American relations is carried through 1815. The third chapter contains an excellent brief account of trade relations before 1850. The account of early emigration from Sweden to America seems rather general, but a later chapter entitled “The Great Migration,” dealing with the post-Civil War period, is more adequate. Also included is a chapter on Sweden and the American Civil War, in which is retold the story of John Ericsson.

Although almost all aspects of their subject receive attention, the authors seem most effective and convincing in dealing with economic affairs. The last two chapters, which relate largely to commercial-industrial relationships, reflect the authors’ special competence in these matters. Other aspects of Swedish-American relations in recent years are briefly mentioned but are not developed. Although its usefulness to scholars is limited by its brevity, the book deserves wide reading. Certainly it adds greatly to the attractiveness of one’s bookshelf.

SMALL TOWNS IN TRANSITION
Main Street on the Middle Border. By Lewis Atherton. (Bloomington, Indiana University Press, 1954. xix, 423 p. Illustrations. $6.00.)

Reviewed by Alice Felt Tyler

PROFESSOR Atherton states that he has tried to avoid writing another “I remember” book. He alone knows how much temptation he resisted and how successfully he has done so. For many of the readers of his book, however, whose lives cover the same period and were begun in the same environment as his own, the material he offers sets up a decided “I remember” reaction. The effect is much the same as that produced in reading Carl Sandburg’s autobiographical account of life in Galesburg, Illinois, before the turn of the century. If not specifically “I remember,” the effect is a rather nostalgic “this is true, that did happen, this I felt, that I knew.”

For one born before 1900, whose youth was nonurban and whose roots are deep in American soil and American history, this is an easy and tantalizing book to read, but a hard one to evaluate. Although one may be in fundamental agreement with the account of the early history of the Midwestern small town and the way of life it offered, it is possible to differ widely from the author’s version of ideas and trends. Professor Atherton states that his is a cultural and economic history of Midwestern country towns from 1885 to 1950, and he carefully defines the regional limits of his study and the size of his “country town.” His own experience with such towns has been wide and close, and his reading has obviously been exhaustive and extensive. The illustrations have been carefully chosen and are of great value, and the footnotes (unfortunately at the end of the book) are valuable in showing the variety of source material used—much of it difficult for the average student to come by. Like so many monographs, this book is the culmination of years of loving care in assembling data, of painstaking choices and classification and doubtless painful cutting and paring of material. It provides, in the notes, invaluable bibliographical material for many other aspects of local and Midwest history. It is, in short, a reliable and useful book; one for which those interested in social and economic history should be grateful.

With that acknowledgment of gratitude as prelude, it may be permissible for one whose acquaintance with small Midwestern towns has been as long and as close as Professor Atherton’s to express some differences of opinion with him on various aspects of his survey of the subject. The accounts of the beginnings of these towns in the pioneer period and of their struggle for survival seem valid—and regional—as does the account of their cultural poverty in the period when Hamlin Garland and Edgar Lee Masters fled from them. But, when the author states that “Americans everywhere think of country towns as museum pieces” and believe country-town boys and girls are “anxiously looking forward to the time when they can join the rush to the cities,” he is, I think, ex-
pressing the attitude of forty or fifty years ago rather than that of the present. The "defeatism" of which he writes is, in large part, a thing of the past, and the re-evaluation for which he pleads has already begun—if not in Missouri, certainly in other states. The small Midwest town of 1955 is definitely not the small Midwest town of my youth, and its attractiveness is such that if it is near a large city, it is rapidly becoming a part of suburbia rather than a haunt for retired farmers. If it is still essentially rural, it has learned, or is learning, to develop its assets and capitalize upon the advantages inherent in the life of a small community. Dozens of small towns today are visibly and consciously the center of the cultural life of a circle with a greater radius than in the past. New types of transportation and communication and new cultural advantages derived therefrom have reduced the sterility of small-town life and, it begins to appear, increased the awareness of its satisfactions.

In the second place, if the sections of the book dealing with the origins and early history of the small towns are carefully "Midwest," the rest of the book loses that regional character. The book is largely concerned with American small-town life for the period covered; there is nothing peculiarly "Middle Border" about it. The temperance movement, the small college, music and the "arts," newspapers, the Chautauqua, the funerals, the Fourth of July celebrations—all these were American, middle-class, small-town phenomena varying only slightly from region to region.

Next, New England towns and those of the South may have deeper roots and more local pride in tradition. Nevertheless the Middle Border small town has had, by 1955, more than a hundred years of history if not growth, and the inhabitants of towns like New Ulm, for example, have a deep sense of their own history and of "belonging" to it, always providing that their parents and grandparents stayed where their forebears settled! If there was rootlessness in the nineteenth century, it seems gone now.

Again, the author's detailed examination of changes in the eating habits of the small-town American resulting from changes in production of goods, in their packaging, marketing, and advertising, has not, especially, either a small-town or a Midwestern significance. Industrialization, new inventions and discoveries, new means of transportation and communication, have annihilated seasons so far as food is concerned; and electrification has revolutionized household life and homemaking. The "deep freeze" in a general store in microscopic Hill City, South Dakota, produces the same varieties of frozen fruit juices as the supermarket of Minneapolis. But these changes are not peculiar to small-town or Midwestern life.

Professor Atherton pays his respects to the American practice of accomplishing community and communal purposes by voluntary associations of religious, reform, civic, or fraternal nature, but he fails, it seems to me, to develop the theme as important in small-town life, in the present as well as in the past. His emphasis upon the "classless society" idea seems overstated, if valid at all. I have never known a small town where social levels were not recognized despite the fact that some of its citizens might arrange those levels on a basis of degrees of wealth, while others might use education, family, or other criteria.

It is, perhaps, immaterial that the book and its title do not always match. Small-town culture was, and is, a significant part of American social history. Understanding of the American "character" and American culture can be acquired only from close examination of American local history and institutions, region by region, period after period. Each contribution to that understanding is needed and welcome.

FOLKLORE IN THE MAKING


Reviewed by Philip D. Jordan

DURING the nineteenth century, when the American frontier was marching triumphantly across the prairie states of the Middle West, an unusual pioneer plodded leisurely from clearing to clearing. He was a Yankee, born and bred in the old Bay State. Now and again the wayfarer stopped to drop a few seeds into the good earth or to distribute religious tracts. This was John Chapman. The seeds he planted grew into apple trees. The kindly words he spoke and the lessons of Christian morality.
he taught set him apart from the run of rough men. And, even before his death and burial in a now unknown grave, the appleseeds and the lessons blended in a mysterious manner to make an imperishable national legend. From the reality came the myth, and the myth graced John Chapman with a new name — Johnny Appleseed. Through the long generations since John Chapman was lowered to rest, the legend has become brighter and stronger, until today Johnny Appleseed is a hundred times more vigorous than John Chapman ever was when he tramped the wilderness of Ohio and Indiana and Illinois.

In a very real sense this biography of a man and a myth is a study in national symbolization and legend making. It is a gathering and an interpretation of the tangible and intangible forces at labor in the making of a secular saint. Only a few years ago little was known of the modest individual who, in tatters and bare feet, was responsible for the planting of so many orchards. He had become so phantasmagoric that some wondered whether such a person ever had existed. Stories about his exploits with the wild animals of the woods and the savages of the forest had swelled so big in the telling that scoffers conjectured they had no basis in fact. These skeptics said the American imagination was at work again.

Mr. Price, with careful research, not only has brought together all the available details of Chapman's life but also has corrected many misinterpretations. It is true enough, for example, that the sower of seeds was an eccentric, but he was far from crazy. Although he gave the impression of poverty, he owned considerable land in several communities. He loved animals but did not permit rattlesnakes to sink their fangs into his hardened feet. It is also true that the legend was in the shaping before Chapman's death in 1845. Many episodes singing his praises were current in the back country. Hovey's Magazine of Agriculture in 1846 printed a sketch of him. He found a place on the pages of local histories; he figured in a novel published in 1858; Harper's New Monthly Magazine in 1871 not only called him a hero but also elevated him to national prominence. Indeed, the drawings which illustrated this article pictured Chapman in ragged garments, with bare feet, and wearing a tin pot as a hat. In short, the appearance of the hero was established then in a permanent mold.

This volume supplements a co-operative history of Chapman which was published by the Swedenborg Press in 1945. To this, Mr. Price contributed a section pertaining to Johnny Appleseed's place in folklore and literature. The present, full-length study is another of the many memorials to the nation's gentlest folk character—a man who well deserves to be called the St. Francis of the American wilderness.

JOURNALISM HISTORY


Reviewed by Richard Eide

THIS VOLUME gives a picture of the American press in a framework of American history. It was written by two professors of journalism who received their doctor's degrees in the field of history, and the result is authentic history presented in an interesting manner.

The book emphasizes the role the press has played in American life. In the range of its content it surpasses all previous volumes on the history of American journalism. Its twenty-nine chapters are enlivened by forty-four pages of illustrations, and each chapter is followed by a bibliography.

In tracing the development of American journalism from its birth in the traditions of English journalism to modern times, the authors reveal how the larger political, economic, and social forces shaped the press, and how it grew out of historic processes involving wars, the expanding frontier, the rise of the masses, sectionalism, revolutions in national life, the growth of mass media, and the changing philosophies of government.

The authors also show how great editors and

MR. EIDE is a former Minnesotan who is now a member of the faculty of the school of journalism in Florida State University at Tallahassee.
publishers of the nation popularized and stabilized the press. Their list is long, distinguished, and colorful. A small sample includes such early Colonial builders as the Franklin brothers, James and Benjamin; Isaiah Thomas, who used his little newspaper, The Spy, to voice the feelings of patriots of his day; the strong Federalist, Alexander Hamilton, one of the founders of the New York Post, which is still an active leader of opinion, and Hamilton’s opponent, Thomas Jefferson, a liberal voice among the people of his day. Included also are Horace Greeley, whose New York Tribune expressed the feelings of the masses; Joseph Medill, whose Chicago Tribune expounded strong antislavery attitudes; Joseph A. Wheelock of the St. Paul Pioneer Press, which was a stabilizing influence in the Middle West; Joseph Pulitzer and his New York World, which fought the people’s battles; William Randolph Hearst, whose New York Journal won large circulation as a merchant of sensationalism; William Allen White, who extended the influence of his colorful Emporia Gazette beyond the borders of his community, and Adolph S. Ochs, whose genius as a publisher made the New York Times a great American institution.

The book provides the reader with valuable information on the present status of press, radio, and television. It also contains up-to-date sketches of representative newspapers and newspapermen that have made the Fourth Estate a strong and independent American institution. The volume is a good investment.

BOOK SURGERY

The Doctors Mayo. By HELEN CLAPESATTLE. (Minneapolis, University of Minnesota Press, 1954. 426 p. Illustrations. $4.75.)

Reviewed by Theodore C. Blegen

IN A REVIEW of the first edition of this biography in 1941, I described it as "one of the great dramatic stories of America" and called attention to its picture of the development of medicine in a period of swift transition, its effective treatment of the social history of frontier Minnesota, its notable account of the Mayo Clinic as an experiment in co-operative individualism, and its full-bodied recreation of the Mayos themselves and their colleagues.

The author’s splendid research, her vibrant writing, and the significance of the whole story won for The Doctors Mayo national and international recognition. In its English dress the book has had a sale of 120,000 copies, and it has also appeared in ten other languages: German, Spanish, Portuguese, Greek, Arabic, Japanese, Thai, Urdu, Senegalese, and Burmese. The saga of the men of Rochester has been told to the world.

Now Miss Clapesattle has jetlined her narrative, reducing it from 822 to 426 pages. This is surgery that may compare with some of the operations performed by the heroes of the book. It has been accomplished with fine success, for the essential story is still here. In fact, the condensation and the omission of earlier documentation serve to bring out in still clearer relief the fundamentals of character, circumstance, and achievement that made the earlier edition so robust and exciting. I recommend this book to those who read the saga in its first form as well as to those who unhappily did not see the first text. This version will surely reach a new and vast audience and will emerge in many other translations. The Doctors Mayo is a great Minnesota story of universal interest.

MILL CITY INDUSTRY

Business without Boundary: The Story of General Mills. By JAMES GRAY. (Minneapolis, University of Minnesota Press, 1954. xiii, 343 p. $4.75.)

Reviewed by Merrill E. Jarchow

By 1953 when General Mills celebrated its twenty-fifth anniversary its daily capacity was "143,000 cwt., nearly one-sixth of the commercial milling capacity of the United States and one and three-quarters times that of its nearest rival." With sales of products and services of nearly one-half billion dollars between June 1, 1952, and May 31, 1953, it was a healthy adult in modern economic society. How it arrived at this eminence is the theme of Business without Boundary.

Approximately a third of the book deals with
the history of the Washburn Crosby Company, prime mover behind the consolidation which became General Mills. In this section, the Minnesota reader will encounter many familiar names, and relive half-forgotten experiences. He will read of those valiant imperious New Englanders — the Washburns — especially Cadwallader and William Drew, whose "B Mill" in 1866 started it all. Others in prominent roles include George Christian, William de la Barre, the John Crosbys I and II, William Dunwoody, George Barnum, James S. Bell, Frank Henry, Charles Bovey, Fred Atkinson, William Crosby, Benjamin Bull, James Ford Bell, and Harry Bullis. Older readers will be reminded of the sometime famous slogan: "Eventually — Why Not Now?", of the title "Kitchen-Tested," and of the once-popular Wheaties Quartet. The younger generation may be interested to learn the origin of the call letters WCCO and of the evolution of Betty Crocker. Both young and old, of course, will have heard of Gold Medal Flour.

Given considerably shorter treatment than Washburn Crosby, and rightfully so, are the other three groups of interests which were merged into General Mills: the Sperry Company with mills in California, the Pacific Northwest, and Utah; the Kell group of mills in Texas and Oklahoma; and the Larrowe Milling Company with headquarters in Detroit. More than half of the volume is devoted to a discussion of the history of General Mills itself. There are attractive illustrations and a good index.

At first General Mills was a holding company, supervising for purposes of efficiency and economy twenty-seven associated operating companies in sixteen states. Its primary functions were merchandising and advertising; each of the associate companies "had its own profit-and-loss system, did its own buying of wheat, maintained its own hedge, and made its own requests for loans from the general treasury to conduct its market operations." Changed conditions in the 1930s, however, dictated the wisdom of reorganization, and so, on June 1, 1937, by action of the board of directors, General Mills became an operating company, all but three of its subsidiary companies being liquidated and dissolved.

Throughout its history, with science as a constant companion and faith in research as its master, General Mills has sought new ways of serving the public. Vitamin concentrates, Bisquick, Cheerios, and the "Brown 'n Serve" process are some of the best known of its contributions, but it manufactures a host of other products, too. Apparently its policies have been wise, for in 1953 it was one of only eight companies listed on the New York stock exchange which could boast of not once failing to earn and pay dividends on its common stock during the preceding twenty-four years.

James Gray deserves congratulations for producing a book of literary and historical merit, a notable addition to the growing list of titles in the field of business history. This reviewer is especially delighted by the constant emphasis on industrial statesmanship, the ever-present drive to do a better job and promote the common welfare.

For the scholar the volume has some shortcomings. There is no documentation beyond a brief statement of "Sources and Acknowledgments." Treatment is largely descriptive rather than critical or interpretive. The "average employee" is conspicuous by his absence; a better subtitle perhaps than "The History of General Mills" might be "A Management History." The tone throughout seems to be a bit too laudatory to be completely authentic. "Even great Homer sometimes nods." Nevertheless, readers will find the story absorbing, and it will give them an appreciation of the problems faced by, as well as the achievements of, one very important segment of our expanding economy.

**EVOLUTION OF A BANK**


Reviewed by Marion Cross

IT ISN'T OFTEN that a bank can boast a family tree. That of the First National Bank of Saint Paul is so large and luxuriant that it covers a three-page chart, and such are its ramifications that The First through a Century is practically a history of banking in St. Paul.

It would almost seem that the book had three authors instead of two, because it so clearly reflects three different types of treat-
ment. The first third traces the development of the bank against a background of time and place. In pre-national bank days anyone could open a bank in a frontier community by merely hanging out a sign. It took a remarkably able banker to weather the panic of 1857, yet three of the private banking houses of that era grace the family tree of the First. In 1864 one of them was chartered as the First National Bank of Saint Paul, and for nearly half a century thereafter it made steady but unspectacular progress.

Then, in 1912, James J. Hill decided to add the First to his empire. When the stockholders refused to sell, he forced them to do so by purchasing the Second National Bank and threatening to transfer to it the accounts of the railroads he controlled—the Great Northern and the Northern Pacific. Merger of the Second and the First under the name of the First National made it the city’s leading bank, but the balance was soon restored when two other large banks, the National German American and the Merchants National, joined forces.

In 1929 the First again had greatness thrust upon it through outside pressure. This time Northwest Bancorporation threatened to acquire the bank but was forestalled by a merger of the Merchants National and the First. When competition from Northwest Bancorporation began to make inroads on the First’s roster of correspondent banks, further action became necessary, and this time the St. Paul bank joined the First National of Minneapolis in organizing the First Bank Stock Corporation.

In the section dealing with the mergers the emphasis is on individuals; in the final section it shifts to economic conditions, especially in the chapter on the agricultural depression of the 1920s and its effect on banking in the Northwest.

People who like statistics will regret the absence from this book, but the history is nonetheless full of interest. The chapters devoted to the various mergers are particularly absorbing, because they are largely based on unusually revealing, firsthand information. Here is one of the all-too-rare instances of history recorded at the ideal time; the events were far enough in the past to permit speaking freely, yet close enough to the present to be remembered distinctly.

**INDIANS AND THEIR CAPTIVES**

Captured by Indians: True Tales of Pioneer Survivors. By Howard H. Peckham. (New Brunswick, Rutgers University Press, 1954. xvii, 238 p. Illustrations. $5.00.)

Reviewed by Willoughby M. Babcock

Fortunate is the reader who has available the publisher’s “blurb” on the dust jacket of this book, because it gives the key to this compilation of accounts of whites captured by the Indians. For something like three centuries, Indian warfare has seemed to white men to contain the essence of violence, ambush, torture, and bloody murder. This idea is emphasized by the blurb and also by the book’s end papers, which have been reproduced from a “massacre” volume of 1835.

This attitude fails to consider that to the American Indian, as to most savages, warfare was a basic element in the continual struggle for existence. Although he had to fight to live, he saw no reason for sacrificing his own life unnecessarily, hence, his use of the methods of the surprise attack, the ambush, and the quick withdrawal. He regarded every member of a hostile group, be it man, woman, or child, as a potential enemy to be eliminated. Moreover, unless needed as slaves or replacements for lost tribal members, captives were killed because they had to be fed. The white man, ever pressing forward onto Indian hunting lands, represented a growing menace, and the Indian simply used his customary war methods in resisting this encroachment.

The compiler of this volume has selected fourteen captivity accounts, dating from 1676 to 1864. Most of them are well known. Six come from the Ohio Valley, three from New England, three from the South and the Southwest, one from Michigan, and one from the Oregon Trail country near Fort Laramie. Min-

Miss Cross is the author of a history of the Farmers and Mechanics Savings Bank of Minneapolis, published in 1949, and other works relating to local business history.

Mr. Babcock is curator of newspapers on the staff of the Minnesota Historical Society. He has long been a student of the Indian history of the upper Northwest.
nesota readers will look in vain for the Abbie Gardner story of 1857, or indeed for any account of captivity in the Mississippi Valley.

To one familiar with the original forms of such stories, Mr. Peckham’s versions seem lacking in vigor and life. Massacre and captivity are harsh, bloody subjects, and should, in this reviewer’s judgment, be handled accordingly. Nobody, however, will be kept awake by this book.

PIONEER HISTORICAL SOCIETY


Reviewed by Russell W. Fridley

THIS comprehensive history of the nation’s second oldest historical society was written for its sesquicentennial by its director, whose career, it might be noted, includes experience as librarian of the Minnesota Historical Society.

The narrative begins with a skillful and imaginative recreation of its founding in 1804, chiefly as a result of the efforts of John Pintard, then clerk of New York City. Sketches of the society’s founders and presidents are provided, and sections are devoted to the main events that occupied the respective administrations of all twenty-three presidents. A final chapter entitled “Elegant Dinners and Eloquent Dinners” depicts significant anniversary celebrations. Interwoven in the story is a description of changing political, economic, social, and cultural trends in American life, a feature which broadens the perspective of the book and enhances its value.

From the beginning, the purpose of the New-York Historical Society was “to discover, procure and preserve whatever may relate to the . . . history of the United States in general, and of the State of New-York in particular.” Thus, it was the first agency devoted to collecting material relating to the history of the nation.

The book includes a remarkable amount of detail about the society’s membership and its collections. Evidence drawn from the membership rolls, for example, indicates that they constitute a veritable procession of the great men of New York and elsewhere. Reflecting, too, is the institution’s ambitious collecting program, which is surveyed in detail for the entire span of the society’s history. Its rich collection of paintings has been generously tapped to provide illustrations, some of which depict the growth of the city and the society. It is noteworthy that this organization once served as the city’s principal art and natural history museum and helped nurture the special museums that later took over these functions.

Although every historical society is unique, one can learn much about historical societies in general from this book. It dramatizes many common problems and purposes—the continual struggle for funds, the search for an adequate home, internal squabbles, the need for able leadership, attempts to sustain public interest in history, and the constant drive to collect historical materials. Accounts of some of the New York society’s trials will afford amusement for the reader, as for example the description of “Mrs. Van Rensselaer’s War,” which graphically illustrates the infinite demands made upon such institutions. Some readers may wish, however, that the author had drawn some conclusions from his organization’s experience for the benefit of the entire historical society movement.

Copious notes and documentation fill out the work. A superior stylist, Mr. Vail tells this fascinating story with humor and justified pride. He has done credit to the great society he directs and to its “distinguished company” over a century and a half.

LINKING THE LAKES

The Sault Canal through 100 Years. By F. Clever Bald. (Ann Arbor, University of Michigan, 1954. 36 p. $0.25.)

Reviewed by Hamilton N. Ross

THE AUTHOR OF this booklet concisely and accurately traces the history of the Sault gateway from the earliest recorded visit of a white man. He presents in succession the Chippewa, the explorers, the missionaries, the French, English, and American fur traders, the builders of the rudimentary English locks, and the
later Americans who erected the present enormous facilities. Frontier characters like Jean Baptiste Cadotte, Gabriel Franchere, Lewis Cass, Henry R. Schoolcraft, and Dr. Douglass Houghton figure in this narrative.

The supreme importance of this "Miracle Mile" in American transportation history is emphasized by the author. He records that "During World War II, the area around the locks was the most heavily guarded spot in the United States," and that the tonnage of freight carried through the locks in 1953 "was nearly 129 million tons, a figure surpassing the total of the Panama, the Manchester, the Kiel, and the Suez Canals combined." No matter how optimistic government engineers were in designing greater locks, within a few years their estimates proved inadequate. In looking to the future, the author notes that the modern utiliza-

EXPLORING GEOLOGIST


Reviewed by Harold T. Hagg

THE CAREER OF Douglass Houghton touched many facets of the development of Michigan. Born and reared in upper New York State and educated at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute, he was invited in 1830 to give a series of lyceum lectures on chemistry at Detroit. The success of his lectures and the personal popularity he achieved led him to settle there. As geologist, explorer, physician, educator, land speculator, and officeholder he became a prominent figure and won widespread respect and esteem.

For several years after his arrival in Michigan, Houghton practiced medicine and engaged in land speculation. In 1837, shortly after the establishment of the Michigan Geological Survey, he was appointed state geologist. Until his untimely death by drowning in 1845, he gave the greater part of his time and energies to the work of the survey. The scientific investigation of the Upper Peninsula copper country was his most notable achievement. To his undoubted scientific acumen, Houghton added a keen interest in the economic possibilities of Michigan's natural resources.

Although Mr. Bintala's little volume gives a clear account of Houghton's activities, the narrative is unduly burdened with quotations. Not much attempt has been made to place Houghton in the setting of his times. Houghton's unusual intellectual powers and the warmth and charm of his personality are brought out, but the man himself never comes to life in these pages. We are given only a glimpse of his role as surgeon and botanist to the Schoolcraft expedition of 1832, a subject of special interest to Minnesota readers. While adding little that is new, the author has made a contribution by assembling Houghton's story from scattered materials and by making it conveniently accessible in one brief volume.

WOLVERINE HISTORY

Michigan in Four Centuries. By F. Clever Bald. (New York, Harper & Brothers, 1954. viii, 498 p. Illustrations, maps. $4.00.)

Reviewed by Sidney Glazer

THE LATE John M. Munson, long identified with Michigan education, bequeathed a portion of his estate for the writing of a history of his state. The Michigan Historical Commission selected F. Clever Bald, a recognized authority known as the author of Detroit's First American Decade, to prepare a one-volume story. Michigan in Four Centuries is evidence that the commission chose wisely.

Dr. Bald divides his history of Michigan into seven chronological sections. The brief introductory unit tells of prehistoric Michigan. Part 2 is devoted to French and English rule. The third division carries the story from American
endings through the attainment of statehood. Part 4, which is entitled “Exploiting National Resources,” covers the years 1837 to 1860 and includes two excellent chapters on the Upper Peninsula. The three-decade interval from 1860 to 1890 is summarized in Part 5. The sixth section, “Challenge to Democracy,” covers the period between 1890 and 1920. Part 7, on “Economic Achievements and Social Progress, 1920–1950,” concludes with a brief chapter summarizing recent gains and suggesting contemporary problems.

The author skillfully integrates political, economic, and social history. Economic historians will find the sections on the lumbering and automotive industries especially helpful. The impact of the depression and the New Deal upon Michigan is treated in considerable detail. The volume is without even a trace of antiquarianism. Personalities of minor importance are introduced primarily for purposes of illustration. Many lively biographical sketches add to the vitality of the book. Although Dr. Bald attains a high degree of objectivity, he also expresses some opinions. He is frank in his discussion and evaluation of contemporary problems and contemporary personalities.

The maps were especially drawn for the volume, and the many photographs were selected with care. The line drawings by William Thomas Woodward are unusually attractive and pertinent. The bibliography, although brief, includes references to standard secondary sources. The “Michigan Chronology” lists the “high spots” in Michigan history. The thirteen-page index suggests the scope of material covered by the author.

Dr. Bald has written a compact and stimulating volume. Michigan in Four Centuries fulfills the last wishes of Professor Munson.

**SPECULATING PIONEER**

**James Duane Doty, Frontier Promoter.** By Alice E. Smith. (Madison, The State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1954. x, 472 p. Illustrations. $5.00.)

Reviewed by Walker D. Wyman

"IN THE FALL of 1868 the library that Doty had painstakingly gathered, and carefully preserved through his many moves, a collection so huge that it made three large wagonloads, was carted from the Loggery [his former home on an island in Lake Winnebago] to a paper mill in Neenah and ground to pulp."

These closing lines of Alice E. Smith's biography of this frontier promoter explain in part why a century has passed before a volume about him has been constructed. It also explains why a person of Miss Smith's research skill and experience was required to do it. When there are only gleanings left in the field of historical evidence, the writing of biography of necessity must be left to experts.

James Duane Doty was a leading frontier figure from 1818, when he went to Detroit as a young lawyer, until his death in 1865, when he was governor of the Territory of Utah. In the intervening years, his record of speculation and public service was equaled by that of few people in the region west of Lake Michigan. He served as the first judge in the wilderness area between Green Bay and Prairie du Chien, then known as West Michigan, as a member of the legislative council of Michigan Territory, as governor of Wisconsin Territory, as a member of the first constitutional convention in Wisconsin, as a representative in Congress from the state whose name he insisted upon spelling “Wiskonsin,” as superintendent of Indian Affairs in Utah Territory, and finally as governor of the explosive political organization known as Deseret. Few politicians occupied so many different posts and, at the same time, promoted so many other enterprises.

As a speculator interested principally in townites, Doty laid out a number in co-operation with others, and consequently he was always in debt and frequently badgered by creditors. He was among those who laid out the townsite of Madison and caused the territorial legislators to see the wisdom of locating the capital there—a dubious honor at best. Doty's speculations also included the building of canals and railroads, though in these projects he met with little success.

As a family man, the husband of a Yankee girl from New York and the father of three children, Doty does not come to life, though

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**MR. WYMAN is professor of history in the Wisconsin State College at River Falls.**
a chapter is given to his personal affairs. But as a promoter of himself and of varied speculations, he walks through these pages against an excellent backdrop of the events and personalities of his day. The fact that this restless man of amazing energy, with an insatiable appetite for political preferment and the joys of accumulation, was never as loyal to a party as the standards of his day demanded of officeholders makes his political success especially surprising.

Although this biography is essentially a study of a speculator, it is never clear just what such promoters contributed to the development of the frontier. As measured by financial standards, the success of such a type is never completely described, for the psychological factors that drove him on must of necessity be left unexplained. Why did Doty leave his comfortable home at the age of sixty-two to travel to the Utah country to start a new life? Was he moved by the prospect of promoting mines and railroads, or by a sense of frustration?

It is remarkable not only that this book could be written, but that the story of James Doty could be told so well. Against a well-developed backdrop of contemporary events, he emerges as a frontier type who influenced much of the early history and development of Wisconsin.

**LAWYER IN POLITICS**

Matthew Hale Carpenter: Webster of the West.
By E. Bruce Thompson. (Madison, The State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1954. viii, 334 p. Illustrations. $4.50.)

Reviewed by Robert P. Fogerty

Matthew Carpenter, Vermont-born, trained in the law under Paul Dillingham of Waterbury, Vermont, and Rufus Choate of Boston, migrated to Beloit, Wisconsin, where he lived and practiced from 1848 to 1858. With a growing practice stemming from success in railroad litigation, he moved to Milwaukee in 1858, maintaining his legal residence there until his death in 1881. He was United States Senator from Wisconsin from 1869 to 1875 and again from 1879 to 1881. He grew up a strict-construction Democrat, but in the interval between 1865 and 1887 he shifted gradually to the Republican party without losing his strict-constructionism. By 1871 he had become one of the staunchest of the stalwarts—a position which he maintained to his death and which made him a choice subject for the cartoons of Thomas Nast.

Professor Thompson’s search for Carpenter materials has been exceedingly diligent and fruitful. His use of these materials gives us a well-written biography that rounds out our knowledge of Carpenter, modifies conceptions that may survive from the nineteenth century’s rugged political wars, and brings again to our attention the man who shaped much of Radical Reconstruction and who argued many famous cases of his times. The author, admitting to enthusiasm, has his subject occupying perhaps a few too many pinnacles and making an abundance of “most remarkable in the annals” performances, both in and out of court. But judicious balance is struck and clear insight is provided in excellent passages throughout the work. Carpenter emerges very definitely as a man of superb powers, who in many causes so used these powers as to stand tall among the great. For whatever reasons, he could use them, too, cynically or with stubborn loyalty, in the service of fraud and corruption.

**VISUAL HISTORY**

Pictorial History of the Wild West: A True Account of the Bad Men, Desperadoes, Rustlers and Outlaws of the Old West—and the Men Who Fought to Establish Law and Order.

Reviewed by K. Ross Toole

This book is chiefly notable for its illustrations. There are plenty of them and they are good. Some, those from the Pinkerton files, for instance, have never before been printed. There is little new material textually, but at least the authors largely resist the temptation to glorify the “bad men.” They cut Billy the Kid’s “kills” from twenty-one (one for each of his years) to...
the far more likely number of five. He emerges pretty much as the unsavory character he was. The hero of the piece, Pat Garrett, also loses most of his mythical luster.

The book is something of a hodgepodge. A number of Frederic Remington’s paintings are included, apparently, merely because they were available. The treatment, which is partly chronological and partly topical, appears to be arbitrary and lends little to an understanding of the real problem of early law enforcement in the West.

Nonetheless, this is an interesting book to thumb through. Like a good issue of Life magazine, it is worth having around the house.

SETTLERS FROM ERIN


Reviewed by George R. Gilkey

THIS ACCOUNT of the Irish in nineteenth-century Wisconsin is an absorbing study of one of America’s most significant immigrant groups. Drawing upon archival materials, printed sources, newspapers, and formal studies, the author has reconstructed the story of the Irish transplantation to Wisconsin and the role they played in the development of that state. The opening chapter deals with the factors determining Irish immigration. In the five chapters that follow, the locations and occupations of these immigrants, their political activities, and their religious and social life are discussed.

The author has properly concentrated the first chapters on the era of heaviest migration—the 1850s. In that decade 914,119 Irish debarked on America’s shores. From that and earlier influxes, Wisconsin attracted 49,961 Irish before 1860, placing the group second only to the Germans in numbers within the state. As Irishmen had peopled the upcountry of Colonial America, so they pioneered in Wisconsin. They were frontiersmen, farmers, railroad workers, lumbermen, and politicians. Originally Democratic, the “Irish vote” was successfully courted later by the Republicans in certain areas. But in Erin Township, Washington County, so solid was the support of the Democracy that the tellers threw out the single vote cast for Lincoln in 1860 because they believed the voter had unwittingly made an error!

The dualism found among immigrant groups in America is well summarized by the author when she writes that “the Irish countryman who crossed the sea and settled in Wisconsin retained his Irish character, his customs, and traditions, simultaneously adapting himself to American life in the Midwest.” She then goes on to explain how “Irishmen and their descendants retained their deep hatred of England and fierce loyalty to the ‘old sod’ while at the same time developing a staunch allegiance to the United States and its institutions, and to the Democratic Party.”

This study is packed with pertinent names, dates, places, and records of activities; a good index guides the reader seeking a specific item. Here and there the author had difficulty with the terms “emigrant” and “immigrant.” On page 37, for example, she writes of a “commissioner of emigration” and then a few lines later calls the same officer “commissioner of immigration.” She might have noted that although the bulk of the Irish immigrants had reached the United States by 1860, an additional 1,480,000 arrived between 1870 and 1900. These minor points do not, however, detract from a most interesting study of Wisconsin’s formative years.

A SCOUT’S STORY


Reviewed by John T. Flanagan

FREDERICK F. Manfred, who has written fiction about rural Minnesota and Iowa under the name of Feike Feikema, has chosen in this novel the Missouri Valley for a locale and a historical figure for his protagonist. Hugh Glass was a hunter and scout attached to the Ashley-Henry group of fur traders who operated from posts on the Yellowstone and upper Missouri rivers.

MR. FLANAGAN, who is professor of American literature in the University of Illinois at Urbana, has written widely on Northwest fiction.
in the 1820s. Glass was a veteran of many an Indian skirmish and hunting exploit, but nothing in his career quite equaled his duel with a grizzly. Dangerously wounded by the animal, his leg broken, his back lacerated, his ribs laid bare, he yet managed to kill the beast before he collapsed. Two of Major Henry's men were detailed either to nurse him or to bury him. But Indian marauders necessitated their flight. Then began the heroic episode which Manfred calls "The Crawl." Feverish, alone, almost without food and drink, Glass yet survived the first few terrible days. Then, lacking both knife and gun, he crawled or limped the hundred miles from the Grand River to the Cheyenne, completing his journey to Fort Kiowa on the Missouri by dugout.

"The Crawl" is superbly told, vivid, dramatic, by far the best part of the novel. The arid and rocky landscape, the Indian menace, the danger of rattlesnakes, the extremes of heat and cold are admirably presented. But neither the first section, "The Wrestle," nor the final section, "The Showdown," in which Hugh Glass' passion for revenge sputters away, is quite so effective. Nevertheless, Mr. Manfred in Lord Grizzly has fashioned a successful tale out of one of the most famous events of Western history.

on the HISTORICAL HORIZON

SENATOR Richard L. Neuberger of Oregon, long known as a free-lance writer, defines what he calls "The Five 'Devils' of the Historic Writer" in the winter number of the Montana Magazine of History. He contends that he "would rather have a popularized, even a jazzed-up, version of some great historical event read by 100,000 people than to have a most scholarly, detailed and footnoted version read by 1,000 people." To the "Fiends for Accuracy," he offers the argument that "history is not quite an exact science," and that "it is possible to disagree and "still be accurate." Mr. Neuberger feels that it should be the "goal of people who write about history . . . to obtain as wide a readership as possible without perverting history to untruthful ends."

Disagreeing with him in the same issue of the Montana Magazine is Professor Charles M. Gates of the University of Washington, who, incidentally, is a former member of the Minnesota Historical Society's staff. Mr. Neuberger's persuasive arguments notwithstanding, Dr. Gates finds that he is "not convinced that the test of the marketplace is a reliable index to good historical writing." To counteract the influence of the writer whose "mission is not to instruct but to entertain," Dr. Gates sees a need for "watchdogs to guard the limits of our knowledge"—people who "know our myths and legends for what they are," and who are not "concerned with adding to them in flights of imagery." He expresses the belief that "people do put History in a different category than other forms of writing," and that "they show a respect for it that they do not feel for other literature however excellent." If they argue about it, they do so "because they believe that objective standards of truth and actuality are involved which ought not to be lightly compromised."

Mr. Neuberger's viewpoint, on the other hand, is given support by William Harlan Hale, writing in The Reporter for February 24. He characterizes what he calls "The Boom in American History" as a "return of history from the realm of monographs to that of the marketplace." The success of history book clubs, the numerous historical series now in progress, the growing circulation of American Heritage, and the variety of history juveniles rolling off the presses convince Mr. Hale that "we are clearly in the presence of a phenomenon, possibly even a Trend." That trend, he notes, "appears to be away from the Ph.D., or what has been traditionally expected of him," and toward the enlisting by publishers of creative writers, some of whom have "barely a B.A. to their names."

THE POSITION of the scholar in America is the subject of "Intellectuals and Other People," an address delivered by Merle Curti before the American Historical Association in December, 1954, and printed in the January issue of the American Historical Review. In a provocative examination of "the historical bases of the American distrust of intellectuals," Mr. Curti speaks of "the role of evangelical fundamentalism," the "utilitarianism associated
with the frontier," and the attitudes of "indifference or suspicion of learning." Conversely, he surveys "what intellectuals have thought about the people," discusses some of the reasons for the growth of "anti-intelectualism" in America, and points out implications for the historian of today in these attitudes.

THE LIFE and work of "the first American to attempt to preserve the documentary heritage of the nation" are discussed by Fred Shelley in a study of "Ebenezer Hazard: America's First Historical Editor" in the William and Mary Quarterly for January. According to the author, Hazard's Historical Collections did not appear until the 1790s, although the compiler had begun work on his task as early as 1774. This pioneering publication of important American state papers was "utilized as basic source material by historians for upwards of a hundred years," writes Mr. Shelley, and for his vision its editor "earned a place of first rank in the roster of American antiquaries."

MINNESOTA is well represented in a Report to the President issued in November by the National Historical Publications Commission to propose A National Program for the Publication of Historical Documents (Washington, 1954. 106 p.). The program calls for publishing "documents in which the Nation's history was written as it happened," and it embraces not only official records, but letters, diaries, journals, reports, and personal papers. On the results of a survey initiated in 1950, the commission bases a list of 361 Americans whose papers would appropriately fit into its program, and it gives special attention to 112 of them. Included in the latter group are four prominent Minnesotans — Ignatius Donnelly, James J. Hill, and the doctors, William J. and Charles H. Mayo. Touching the state's history also are Horace Greeley, some of whose papers are owned by the Minnesota Historical Society; and Sheldon Jackson, a Presbyterian missionary and teacher who was active in Rochester from 1858 to 1869. Among those named on the longer list, grouped by occupations, are John Charles Frémont, Stephen W. Kearny, Lewis Cass, and I. I. Stevens, all of whom helped explore the upper Northwest; Walter Reed, medical pioneer; and John Ireland, religious leader. The omission of the name of Frank B. Kellogg is somewhat surprising.

PLANS to publish a comprehensive edition of the writings of Benjamin Franklin are described by Whitfield J. Bell, Jr., in an article entitled "Franklin's Papers and the Papers of Benjamin Franklin" in the January number of Pennsylvania History. Undertaken jointly by Yale University and the American Philosophical Society, with additional financial help from Time, Inc., the vast project has as its purpose the collecting, editing, and publishing of "all the letters, other papers, and writings by and to Benjamin Franklin." Mr. Bell, who is the project's assistant editor, outlines methods of accomplishing this undertaking, touches on progress to date, and emphasizes the problems inherent in assembling the papers, which the editors believe number between twenty-five and thirty thousand extant pieces. The latter task is both difficult and uncertain, Mr. Bell points out, because many of Franklin's papers were scattered or lost.

ANYONE with an interest in Lincolniana or pictorial history will find informative a pamphlet by Frederick Hill Merserve entitled My Experience in Collecting Historical Photographs (1954. 22 p.). In it, the builder of the famous "Merserve Collection" of Civil War photographs speaks of some of the high lights in his more than fifty years of assembling pictorial records. He tells how he acquired his large collection of Mathew Brady negatives and describes at some length the condition and content of the collection itself. Recognized for his work in collecting Lincoln portraits, Mr. Merserve also touches on some of the uses to which the portraits in his collection have been put by Lincoln scholars and sculptors. The pamphlet is well illustrated with pictures from the Merserve Collection. The material appeared originally in the issue of the Lincoln Herald for the spring and summer of 1954.

A RECENT publication of the National Archives makes available a price list of microfilm copies of the original schedules of Federal Population Censuses, 1840-80 (1955. 73 p.). The earliest Minnesota schedule listed is that for 1850; it consists of one roll and is priced at $2.00. Two rolls, costing $15.00, embrace the records for 1860. By 1880, however, the schedules had become so bulky that twenty-four rolls, costing from $6.00 to $11.00 each, are needed to cover them. Since the records are arranged by counties, a city or county can purchase separately the schedules for its own area. The pamphlet is valuable as a list of available records, as well as for the prices it gives. Another publication of the National Archives of special value to Minnesota users is number 81 of its Preliminary Inventories, in which Laura E. Kelsay deals with the Carto-
graphic Records of the Office of the Secretary of the Interior (1955. 11 p.). Included are records of Pacific railroad surveys for the period from 1849 to 1858 and of wagon roads in the area stretching westward from Lake Superior and the Mississippi. They consist of annotated maps, profiles, outlines of routes, sketches of camps and the countryside, and similar materials.

THE RAPID increase of historic house museums in recent years is one manifestation of the "New Respect for the American Heritage" of which E. P. Alexander writes in the January number of the Midwest Museums Quarterly. Estimating that there must now be more than eleven hundred such museums in the United States, "with at least thirty new ones appearing each year," the author, who is director of interpretation at Colonial Williamsburg, discusses a few of the larger restoration projects and speaks of some of their problems. Among the reasons for the growth of interest in history "written in three dimensions" in recent years, Mr. Alexander lists "the rising interest in understanding all things American," widespread use of the automobile, and increased leisure time.

OF UNUSUAL interest and value for the student of Western art is John C. Ewers' sketch of "Charles Bird King, Painter of Indian Visitors to the Nation's Capitol," which appears in the Annual Report of the Smithsonian Institution for 1953 and has also been issued as a separate. Although "King never set foot on American soil west of the Mississippi River," writes Mr. Ewers, "he was the first white man known to record in oils the physical appearances and picturesque dress costumes of many Indian leaders of the Great Plains tribes." Unlike George Catlin and others who portrayed the American Indians, King simply remained in Washington and let his subjects come to him. As early as 1821, according to Mr. Ewers, King painted the "earliest known representation of a Plains Indian wearing the picturesque feathered bonnet." Many of King's portraits were lost in the fire which destroyed the Smithsonian art gallery in 1865; nevertheless, Mr. Ewers has succeeded in locating more than a hundred of the artist's pictures in various galleries. A check list of these paintings is included in the article.

THE INDIAN war bonnet of eagle feathers "did not become popular in the Plains area until at least 1850 and was unknown to some 'typical' Plains tribes . . . until shortly before the reservation era," according to James H. Howard, who contributes an article on "Plains Indian Feathered Bonnets" to the Plains Anthropologist for December. The writer describes and pictures the war bonnet and several other types of feathered headdresses. He notes that "Strangely enough, the flaring bonnet is no longer commonly seen in the Plains area," where it originated, and that it has been generally adopted by the Indians of the Eastern Woodlands. Mr. Howard mentions the fact that George Catlin occasionally showed Chippewa as well as Sioux Indians wearing war bonnets.

AN ANSWER to the question "Who Was Hiawatha?" is set forth by Arthur C. Parker in an article in the New York Folklore Quarterly for the winter of 1954. Mr. Parker tells of Henry R. Schoolcraft's method of collecting Indian lore "by translation and hearsay" and explains how Schoolcraft and J. V. J. Clark made several "errors that have confused and misled students over since." He concludes that through these two men and the poet Longfellow an Onondaga-Iroquois name was "transferred to a mid-west state and to another linguistic stock." A second article of interest in this issue of the Quarterly is entitled "Folklore in the Schools: The Teaching of Folklore with Local History." It contains practical suggestions, by the magazine's editor Harold W. Thompson, for the collection and use of folklore by teachers and members of local historical societies.

IN THE winter issue of The Beaver Grace Lee Nute describes traces of the Dawson Road found during a recent trek over part of its course. The road, leading from Lake Superior to Winnipeg, was used in the 1870s by Canadians who wished to avoid the long journey through Minnesota when traveling westward from eastern Canada to the Manitoba country.

TWO MINNESOTA writers are represented in the September number of the Southern Folklore Quarterly. Miss Frances Densmore of Red Wing contributes an address on "The Music of the American Indian," which she read at the University of Florida in March, 1954. In it she gives an analysis of the characteristics of Indian music and summarizes her own work in collecting that music in Minnesota and elsewhere. The second contribution, from the pen of Professor Philip D. Jordan of the University of Minnesota, consists of a paper on "Research Possibilities in Folklore" presented before the folklore conference of the National Folk Festival in St. Louis in April, 1953. As a "historian interested in American folklore," the writer is somewhat
troubled by the emphasis placed on collecting by most folklorists. He suggests that material already "collected needs to be brought together and interpreted to the end that what we call the 'American Way' may be better understood."

"THE ANCESTRAL traditions of the French enriched by the settlers and colonists and voyageurs, remained alive and vocal down to our time. But they were taken for granted and remained obscure. Nobody thought . . . they could come to the verge of extinction." Thus writes Marius Barbeau in an article on "How the Folk Songs of French Canada Were Discovered," in the August issue of the Canadian Geographical Journal. Mr. Barbeau explains how he became interested in the picturesque French folk songs and how he came to collect and record them for the National Museum of Canada.

A COLLECTION of stories, tall tales, traditions, ballads, and songs of the American railroad man, edited by B. A. Botkin and Alvin F. Harlow, has been issued as A Treasury of Railroad Folklore (New York, 1953. 530 p.). For students of railroad history, the book's varied contents are indeed a "treasury" of information on roadreaders and railroading. Of special interest is the factual information found in the appendix on locomotives and their builders, and on the naming and nicknaming of railroad systems, trains, cars, and engines. Included is data on the Great Northern, the Northern Pacific, the Chicago Great Western, the Milwaukee, and other roads of importance in Minnesota history.

WRITING in the December number of the Mississippi Valley Historical Review, Otis E. Young describes "The United States Mounted Ranger Battalion, 1832–1833" as an important "connecting link between two periods of United States military history." He states that "Before the formation of the Rangers, the United States Army as a regular service possessed no mounted troops." The Rangers' success in removing the Winnebago from their ancestral lands in Wisconsin in 1833, according to Mr. Young, demonstrated that "horsemen, even undisciplined, were far more effective on the western frontier than the most carefully drilled regular infantry."

OLIVE FREMSTAD, a Metropolitan Opera star who was born in Stockholm about 1870 and went to Minnesota at the age of twelve with her Norwegian preacher father and the rest of her family, is the subject of Mary Watkins Cushing's recent book, The Rainbow Bridge (New York, 1954. 318 p.). The immigrant girl grew up to be one of the world's greatest interpreters of Wagner's heroines, singing with the Metropolitan from 1903 to 1914. In her book, Mrs. Cushing has several references to the Minnesota period in Madame Fremstad's life. Most of them indicate that in later life the great singer held a rather uneasy dislike for Minnesota and particularly for the Minneapolitans who had known her "when." She died in 1951 and is buried in Grantsburg, Wisconsin.

A NEWLY published study of The Life of John J. Keane by Patrick H. Ahern contributes information on that Catholic churchman's attitude toward the Faribault-Stillwater school controversy of the 1890s (Milwaukee, Bruce Publishing Company, 1954. 396 p.). In it, Keane's part in the dispute is set forth, and his letter to Archbishop John Ireland, dated April 29, 1892, concerning the controversy is published.

THAT A STUDY of labels and advertisements can lead to much interesting information on American backgrounds, traditions, symbols, regions, and myths is suggested by Hildegard Binder Johnson in an article on "Geography from the Grocery Shelf," appearing in the Journal of Geography for November, 1954. Such a study, Mrs. Johnson has found, can be used successfully as a teaching device to arouse in students "curiosity about their environment." A number of Minnesota products are to be found among the examples given by the author.

MANY ASPECTS of the movement of farm produce to market are treated in a volume on Marketing published by the United States Department of Agriculture as its Yearbook for 1954 (Washington, 1954. 506 p.). Included are chapters on central markets, food retailers, prices, trade abroad, transportation, storage, processing, grading, reporting systems, and cooperatives. According to information presented in the book, Minnesota has more co-operatives than any other state – 1,356 doing business in 1951-52.

EXPLORERS AND TRADERS

IN THE February number of the American Anthropologist, William S. Godfrey discusses "Vikings in America: Theories and Evidence." His purpose, he says, is to present a "summary of
the evidence pro and con the subject” of Viking discovery and settlement in North America, and he comments that the “battle between the Viking supporters and their critics has long been one which has generated more heat than light.”

Mr. Godfrey reviews existing archaeological and philological evidence advanced by supporters of the Viking theory, and he speaks of the Newport Tower and the Kensington rune stone. In conclusion, he suggests that perhaps scholars “have been looking too far south” and that further archaeological work in Labrador, Newfoundland, and Nova Scotia might shed light on the problem.

Icelandic sagas and archaeological objects that might indicate the presence of “Norsemen in North America Before Columbus” are the subject of an article by Johannes Brønsted in the Annual Report of the Smithsonian Institution for 1953. The author, who is director of the Danish National Museum at Copenhagen, summarizes the results of research involving the Newport Tower, mooring holes in various places, the Kensington stone, and weapons found at Beardsmore, Ontario. He believes that the “philological opposition” to the authenticity of the Kensington stone is “too strong.” What is needed is to establish beyond doubt the existence of Norsemen in North America in pre-Columbian times, Mr. Brønsted says, is a knowledge of their dwellings and graves on this continent. He suggests that a systematic search to resolve the problem should be undertaken by expert archiologists.

THE NOVEMBER issue of the Journal of the Washington Academy of Sciences is devoted to articles dealing with the Lewis and Clark expedition, and giving special recognition to the explorers’ “contributions to science.” The occasion for this special number is the one-hundred-and-fiftieth anniversary of the famous expedition. The introductory article, by John E. Bakeless, describes “Lewis and Clark’s Background for Exploration.” It is followed by a detailed review of the “Cartographic and Geographic Activities of the Lewis and Clark Expedition,” by Herman R. Friis of the National Archives. The expedition’s contributions to botany, zoology, and ethnography are covered in articles prepared by Velva E. Rudd, Henry W. Setzer, Verne F. Ray, and Nancy O. Lurie. A final article, by John Francis McDermott, deals with Clark’s activities as a “Pioneer Museum Man” in St. Louis after 1818.

THE MOST RECENT addition to the Lakeside Classics, issued since 1903 by R. R. Donnelley and Sons of Chicago as Christmas volumes, is a new edition of Gabriel Franchère’s Voyage to the Northwest Coast of America (1954. 321 p.). Like many earlier volumes in the series, the present contribution is edited by Dr. Milo Milton Quaife, who also provides a “Historical Introduction.” There he sketches the career of the French-Canadian native of Montreal who joined the Astorians in 1810, returned to his home city in 1814, and thereafter was associated with the American fur trade. He was one of three members of the Astor expedition to keep a journal and publish a narrative of his adventures. Dr. Quaife presents a reprint of the 1854 English edition of this narrative, incorporating numerous changes based in large part on a study of Franchère’s original manuscript for the French edition of 1820, which is now owned by the Toronto Public Library. Two chapters of the narrative touch on the Minnesota boundary country between Lake Winnipeg and Lake Superior, through which Franchère passed when he returned from the Pacific coast. Some Minnesota connections are brought out by Dr. Quaife in his sketch of his subject. For example, Franchère’s stepson, John S. Prince, settled in St. Paul, and there the Astorian died while visiting in the latter’s home in 1863. Lake Crystal became the home of Franchère’s son, and a great-grandson, Dr. Frederick W. Franchère, still lives there.

A NEW EDITION of Hiram M. Chittenden’s classic two-volume history of The American Fur Trade of the Far West (Stanford, California, 1954. 1059 p.) again makes available a work long out of print. It carries a useful new bibliographical introduction, written by Grace Lee Nute, research associate on the staff of the Minnesota Historical Society, in which she reviews the major materials on fur-trade history published since Chittenden’s study appeared. Miss Nute comments on still-neglected areas in this field and concludes that “Even today one cannot point to a work that has superseded Chittenden’s pioneering venture.”

THE CAREER of George Catlin, “Frontier Painter,” is reviewed by Bates M. Stovall in the November issue of Natural History. In addition to describing the artist’s adventures among the Indians, the writer tells of some of the great collections of his work now owned by American museums. He relates, for example, that what is known as the “Cartoon Collection” is now owned by the American Museum of Natural History in New York. Of special interest in this collection is the LaSalle group of twenty-seven paintings ordered by Louis Philippe in commemoration of the famous French explor-
er." Since the French ruler was dethroned before the series was completed, it was never delivered. Mr. Stovall reports that some of Catlin's paintings from the collection of the National Museum in Washington are now being displayed in Europe under the auspices of the United States Information Agency.

THE FAILURE of the French empire in America "cannot be laid to either the intrepid explorers or the valiant missionaries who laid the foundation . . . but rather to the later settlers who did not come and . . . the military government which lost the battle between English and French Empires of the eighteenth century." So writes Thomas F. McAvoy in a survey of "The Old French Frontier in the Central Great Lakes Region," appearing in the Records of the American Catholic Historical Society of Philadelphia for December. The author reviews briefly the course of French exploration and settlement in the Great Lakes area, with particular emphasis on the work of Catholic missionaries.

A SUBSTANTIAL part of the Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America for the fourth quarter of 1954 is devoted to "Lahontan: An Essay and Bibliography" by A. H. Greenly. The author sketches Lahontan's career, speculates about his explorations, and presents an annotated bibliography of his writings. Foreign as well as English editions of the works are listed, and some of the libraries having copies are indicated. The Minnesota Historical Society is not among the depositories included.

TRAVEL narratives published in nineteen regional historical collections are listed by Robert R. Hubach in the winter, 1954, Journal of the Illinois State Historical Society. Under the title "They Saw the Early Midwest: A Bibliography of Travel Narratives, 1673-1850," the author presents the third and final article in a bibliographical series. In this contribution, Mr. Hubach lists early accounts of travel in what is now Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota, Ohio, and Wisconsin.

A USEFUL Index to Schoolcraft's "Indian Tribes of the United States" compiled by Frances S. Nichols has been issued by the Bureau of American Ethnology of the Smithsonian Institution as number 152 of its Bulletins (Washington, 1954. 257 p.). In his brief introduction to the volume, Matthew W. Stirling surveys Schoolcraft's career and expresses the hope that "publication of the index will restore to more general use" his six-volume work on the American Indian.

"TORNADOES have been more numerous and destructive in Minnesota than in any other state north and west of Missouri and Illinois," writes Snowden D. Flora in Tornadoes of the United States (Norman, Oklahoma, 1953. 194 p.). Information collected at the Minneapolis weather station is included for "four very destructive tornadoes" that hit the area in 1884, 1904, 1941, and 1951. A list of "Some Especially Damaging Minnesota Tornadoes" also appears in the book.
development on the North Shore of Lake Superior.

MINNESOTA events that led to the creation of the International Joint Commission in 1910 are discussed by Carl G. Winter under the title "The Boundary Waters Treaty" in the autumn, 1954, issue of The Historian, published by Phi Alpha Theta. The author reviews the negotiations that grew out of the Minnesota Canal and Power Company's efforts "to divert a portion of the Birch Lake basin in northern Minnesota" for the purpose of supplying electricity to the city of Duluth. He stresses the parts played by Chandler P. Anderson, George C. Gibbons, and Elihu Root; outlines the amendments offered in the Senate by Knute Nelson and others; and summarizes some of the permanent results of the 1909 treaty, which laid down the principles that "still regulate the use of boundary waters" between the United States and Canada.

A HANDSOME little book entitled Developing with Minnesota, 1914–1954 has been issued by the William H. Ziegler Company, Inc., of Minneapolis to commemorate its fortieth anniversary (1954, 40 p.). Largely by means of photographs, the booklet provides a record of some of the machines, tools, and methods used by the construction industry in Minnesota in the past forty years. It points out that as a distributor of heavy equipment, the Ziegler firm helped introduce steam traction engines, shovels, tractors, and other types of specialized machinery to the region. In 1924 the firm "undertook the first general opening of snow-bound highways in Minnesota," clearing one hundred and ten miles of road in five days. Many photographs of old and new equipment used in building railroads and roads, in logging and mining are included, and the growth of the company's plants and services is chronicled. A picture section entitled "Customers through the Years" contains views showing various Minnesota construction firms at work.

THE STORY OF "Lord Gordon, Swindler Deluxe" is retold by Earl Chapin in the St. Paul Pioneer Press of February 6. The writer touches on Gordon's visit to Minnesota in 1871, on his bogus colonization project, and on his subsequent encounters with Jay Gould, Horace Greeley, and Canadian and American law enforcement officers. The same issue of the newspaper contains a sketch of the contests between Pine City and Hinckley in 1896 and 1916 entitled "Pine City Fought for County Seat."

LETTERS, diaries, and personal knowledge are among the sources used by Marguerite N. Bell in writing her biography of Stella L. Wood, pioneer of the kindergarten movement in Minnesota. Under the title With Banners (St. Paul, 1954, 163 p.) the Macalester College Press has published this fitting tribute to a woman who organized and for many years ran a training school for kindergarten teachers in Minneapolis. The school is now a part of Macalester College in St. Paul.

THE golden anniversary of the founding of the Minnesota Nurses Association in 1905 is the occasion for the publication in the Minneapolis Tribune of February 27 of an article on one of its charter members. Under the title "Caroline Bankierlour and MNA Recall 50 Years of Nursing," Patricia Olness writes of Miss Bankierlour's training, of her experience as superintendent of Abbott Hospital, and of her work as executive secretary of the nurses association from 1928 to 1943.

SOME "Inaugurations – 1849 to 1955" of Minnesota governors are described by Patricia Olness in the Minneapolis Tribune of January 2. She notes that Alexander Ramsey traveled to his inaugural in a birch-bark canoe, and that Mrs. Henry H. Sibley was the first woman in Minnesota "to play hostess to her husband's guests in a stone house." The inaugerals of John S. Pillsbury, John A. Johnson, and Floyd B. Olson are also mentioned.

A WORD PICTURE of the typical little red schoolhouse of another day is contributed by Olga Soderberg to the "Local History" column in the November 18 issue of the Cook County News-Herald, published at Grand Marais. The physical appearance of the building, the dress of the pupils, their holiday programs, games, and books, and some of the teaching methods of yesteryear are touched on by the author.

THE FIRST in a series of four reminiscent articles by Otto Timm, pioneer Minnesota aviator, appears in the Windom Reporter of January 7. Taken from the files of the Cottonwood County Historical Society, the articles provide information on Timm's career as a pilot and a builder of planes. Timm relates that he carried his first passenger in 1912, and that he engaged in exhibition flying at various fairs and carnivals throughout Minnesota and the Midwest. A photograph of Timm and Charles A. Lindbergh, Jr., accompanies the installment appearing on January 14.

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ANOTHER local historical museum will be added to Minnesota’s list with the completion this spring of a civic museum building in Royalton. Accounts of the project may be found in the Little Falls Transcript of January 7 and in the Royalton Banner of February 10. In the latter, Dr. E. H. McConagle writes that construction of the museum was undertaken “at the suggestion of Alex Huddleston, custodian of the Morrison County Historical Society”; that the design for the building was contributed by the firm of Dawley Brothers of Olympia, Washington, architects who were former residents of Royalton, and that the museum when completed will “display and house articles and documents of historical interest to the community.”

BEFORE a meeting of the Pine County Historical Society at Hinckley on February 28, Russell W. Friddle, acting director of the state society, spoke on “The Significance of State and Local History.” The Pine County group is planning to map historic sites in the area, undertaking to locate historically interesting Indian villages, cemeteries, mines, quarries, sawmills, ghost towns, railroads, logging roads and camps, stagecoach stops, and missions. In addition, the society plans to map the Pine County section of the old military road from St. Paul to Duluth. The latter project is described in the Lindstrom Press for February 17. An item in the St. Paul Dispatch of February 11 states that historical societies in Carlton and Chisago counties plan to map adjoining sections of the road.

RECOLLECTIONS of one of Minnesota’s worst disasters have been assembled by Clara A. McDermott and Antone A. Anderson in a volume on The Hinckley Fire (New York, Comet Press Books, 1954. 157 p.). Included are firsthand accounts of some thirty survivors of the holocaust in the Hinckley and Sandstone areas in 1894.

A READABLE narrative and a large number of especially well-chosen illustrations are features of an attractive booklet, entitled The Rochester Centennial, 1854–1954, issued by a committee under the chairmanship of Dr. James Eckman to mark the one-hundredth anniversary of settlement in Rochester. Text and illustrations combine to treat high lights in the development of the city and of Olmsted County. A chapter is devoted to the coming of the railroad in 1864, another describes the tornado of 1883, and still others detail the growth of St. Mary’s Hospital and the Mayo Clinic. The history of the Olmsted County Historical Society is set forth by Mrs. Grace N. Willson, and an outline of a centennial pageant entitled “The Rochester Story” is included. Photographs and contemporary drawings of early buildings and scenes in Rochester add significance to the chronicle. A number of these illustrations are reproduced in the Picture Roto Magazine of the Minneapolis Tribune for July 25, 1954.

THE RAZING OF the Flandrau house on Pleasant Avenue in St. Paul prompted Kathryn Boardman to review briefly some of the events in the lives of its owners in the St. Paul Pioneer Press of January 16. According to the author, the house was built in 1871 by Judge Charles E. Flandrau and was later occupied by his son, Charles M., who made it a center for literary and artistic visitors from all over the country.

AT A meeting of the Rice County Historical Society, held at Northfield on February 22, Miss Brigid Coughlin read a paper entitled “A Review and a Challenge,” in which she analyzed types of programs given before the group over the years. Since its organization in 1926, Miss Coughlin said, the society’s programs have presented a cross section of local history. She divided the papers presented before the society into two large groups: biographical studies of prominent persons or families, and accounts of the development of the county’s schools, churches, and industries. Reports on Miss Coughlin’s talk may be found in the Northfield News of March 3 and the Faribault Daily News of March 5.

THE hundredth anniversary of the signing of a treaty which opened part of northern Minnesota to settlement was marked at the annual meeting of the St. Louis County Historical Society, held at Hibbing on January 27. Dean S. A. Patchin of the Hibbing Junior College delivered the principal address, taking as his subject “Frank Hibbing and the Village of Hibbing.” An account of the meeting may be found in the Hibbing Daily Tribune of January 28.

MEMORIES of the early days of the Duluth Ski Club are recorded by Jack Kerr in an article entitled “Ski Club Celebrates Fifty Years in Air,” appearing in the Duluth News-Tribune of January 30. Reminiscences of the years “when club representatives established a long line of supremacy among the nation’s leading jumpers,” of local tournaments and other club activities, and of outstanding skiers among the
membership are included. Photographs of pioneer Duluth competitions and jumpers accompany the article.

A SERIES OF articles on Sibley County backgrounds begins in the Gaylord Hub of September 10. The first three weekly installments, published on September 10, 17, and 24, contain a general review of the county's early history and organization; the next three, appearing on October 1, 8, and 22, deal with the development of Dryden Township. Beginning in the issue of the Hub for November 19, the series continues with biographical sketches of early settlers in the Gaylord area.

IN co-operation with the local Junior Chamber of Commerce, the Winona County Historical Society sponsored a concert on March 6 to raise funds necessary for the preservation of a typical one-room schoolhouse. The group has purchased such a building near St. Charles and plans to move it to the Winona County fairgrounds, where it will be used for meetings and exhibits. Proceeds of the concert will be used by the society to move the building. At a meeting on March 24 the Winona County group heard Willoughby M. Babcock, the Minnesota Historical Society's curator of newspapers, speak on "Indian Backgrounds of the Winona Region."

BEYOND STATE BOUNDARIES

A HANDSOMELY PRINTED volume on Jedediah Smith and His Maps of the American West, by Dale L. Morgan and Carl I. Wheat, has been published by the California Historical Society in a limited edition (San Francisco, 1954. 86 p.). It is a notable contribution to available information on the influence of this once-neglected pathfinder. Although Smith's notes and journals remained unpublished for many decades and "though no original map drawn by him has yet been located," the authors state that "it has long been known that certain contemporary maps were influenced by his efforts." Seven such maps are beautifully reproduced in this book; three of them, in their original enormous size, share a pocket in the back cover. Included are maps by A. H. Brué, Albert Gallatin, David H. Burr, Charles Wilkes, and George Gibbs, and a heretofore unpublished "Fremont-Gibbs-Smith" composite which, the authors believe, makes it "possible to recreate the map on which Jedediah Smith portrayed his discoveries about the West."

J.D.H.

A JOURNAL kept by Jeremiah Porter in 1831 and 1832 has been edited by Lewis Rees and published in the December issue of Michigan History under the title "A Missionary in Early Sault Ste. Marie." In addition to the picture of life at the Sault which it provides, Porter's journal is of interest for its many references to such of his contemporary residents as Henry R. Schoolcraft, William T. Boutwell, John Tanner, members of the Johnston family, and Robert Stuart.

CONDITIONS in a Wisconsin German settlement of 1854 are vividly described by Eloise Nourse in an article on "The Watertown of Carl Schurz" appearing in the American-German Review for October-November. Emphasis is placed on the centennial of Schurz' arrival at Watertown in 1854, "just after the crest of the wave of Forty-eighthers." The author is especially concerned with the social and cultural life of the four thousand people who lived in the growing community a century ago. She tells, for example, of the singing society organized by Emil Gaebler, and of the kindergarten that grew up about the Schurz family group. To the same issue of the Review Alfred Vagts contributes an interesting study of what he calls the "Ebb-tide of Immigration Germans Returning from America." He draws both on travel literature and on statistics to picture the remigration of Germans from the United States to their homeland.

"TO BRIDGE the growing gap between the academic historian and the broad, general public, the historical society clearly is one of the best available media." So writes Clifford L. Lord in an article entitled "What Are We Doing?" which appears in the January number of the Utah Historical Quarterly. To answer the question posed in his title, Mr. Lord examines the program and functions of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin and describes some of its efforts to reach a wider audience.

THE HUNDREDTH birthday of a Hudson, Wisconsin, landmark is the subject of an article entitled "Octagon House Has Long History" in the St. Paul Pioneer Press of February 6. According to the writer, the house is occupied by descendents of its original builder and "remains substantially as it was 100 years ago."

PRAIRIE du Chien is the scene of much of the action in Charlton Laird's recent novel, West of the River (1953. 307 p.), dealing with the decline of the Northwest fur trade in the 1830s.
THE SOLON J. BUCK AWARD, to be granted to the author of the best article published each year in *Minnesota History*, has been authorized by the society's executive council. Dr. Francis Paul Prucha of St. Marys, Kansas, has received the first award for his article on “Minnesota 100 Years Ago As Seen by Laurence Oliphant,” which appeared in the issue for the summer of 1954. The award carries with it a grant of fifty dollars from a special fund provided by a friend of the society. The winner for 1954 was selected by a committee of three, with Dean Theodore C. Blegen as chairman. In naming the award for Dr. Buck, the society appropriately honors the scholar who founded its quarterly magazine in 1915. The periodical is now in its thirty-fourth volume and its forty-first year of continuous publication. With the exception of members of the society's staff, all authors whose contributions appear in the quarterly become eligible for the award.

THE SOCIETY has announced the appointment of Mr. James Taylor Dunn as librarian to succeed Mr. Dan King, who resigned some months ago. Mr. Dunn, who has served as librarian of the New York State Historical Association at Cooperstown since 1948, is a native St. Paulite. Readers of this magazine will recall his mother's reminiscences of “People and Places in Old St. Paul,” which Mr. Dunn arranged for publication in the spring, 1952, issue.

FROM TIME to time the society issues mimeographed material of interest to special groups. Now available are numbers 10 and 11 of a series of *Educational Bulletins*. The first deals with Pioneer Life in Minnesota; the second, by F. S. Cutler, curator of the society's museum, is entitled *The Lady in the Lake: The Story of America's Oldest Human Skeleton*. In the first of a series of *Information Bulletins*, Russell W. Fridley, acting director, presents a Selected List of Historic Sites in the Twin Cities Area. Miss Lucile M. Kane, curator of manuscripts, has revised and re-issued her *Guide for Collectors of Manuscripts*, which first appeared in 1951 as number 1 of a series of *Service Bulletins*. While the supply lasts, any of these items will be sent free of charge to members who request them.

FOR THE purchase of books and manuscripts in the field of Jewish Americana, the society has received a gift of a thousand dollars from the Minnesota Jewish Tercentenary Committee. The formal presentation was made in connection with a special tercentenary program at Northrop Auditorium on October 17, when the gift was received for the society by Dr. Solon J. Buck, then acting director. It was made possible by contributions from sixty-five Jewish organizations in all parts of Minnesota. In a letter of March 9, which accompanied the monetary gift, Rabbi W. Gunther Plaut of St. Paul expressed the hope that the committee could continue to make “modest additions” to the fund in the future “so that there may be found at the Minnesota Historical Society a scholar's research library of the highest order relating to the many aspects of American Jewish life during the last three centuries.” All books purchased from this fund will be distinguished by an appropriate bookplate.

A SPECIAL picture fund of five hundred dollars is the gift of the society's president, Mr. Carl W. Jones of Minneapolis. It is intended for the purchase of photographic reproductions of pictorial material relating to Minnesota and the Northwest recently located in the National Archives and other Washington and New York depositories.

THE WORK of the American Forest History Foundation in “searching out the authentic historical records that relate the story of America's forests and forest-interested groups” is outlined by Elwood B. Maunder in the March 15, 1954, issue of the *Southern Lumberman*. Under the title “Woodsman, Spare That Record,” Mr. Maunder suggests that although the growing volume of paper records represents an expensive storage problem for both business and government, historically minded experts should be consulted before such materials are consigned to the bonfire. “More and more students of history are beginning to see the importance of business in the social fabric,” writes Mr. Maunder. In part this is so, he adds, “because business records are being opened up to the scholar and writer.”

TO HELP county historical societies build their libraries, the Minnesota Historical Society is presenting to each local group five books of historical interest published by the state society. To date the presentation has been made, with appropriate ceremonies, to the Ramsey and Pine county historical societies at meetings held on January 16 and February 28. Books will be presented to other interested county groups as soon as suitable ceremonies can be arranged.