Some NEW BOOKS in Review...


Reviewed by Dorothy O. Johansen

FAMILY LETTERS and documents which give new dimension to the story and personality of Dr. John McLoughlin, Nor’Wester from 1803 to 1821 and chief factor of the Hudson’s Bay Company in its Columbia department from 1824 to 1845, are here brought together. The correspondence which passed between him and his family reveal him, Mr. Barker points out, “as father, brother, and uncle, without the Olympian composure and granite serenity that frequently have obscured the man.” Other evidence has suggested his reported appearance of composure and serenity was a guise of office rather than a true expression of an inner calm. These letters explain, in part, why he needed such a façade.

A strong feeling of obligation to help support his brother David in his study of medicine held John McLoughlin to his assignment with the North West Company at Fort William and in the Red River country, even though he admitted he preferred “living on potatoes and milk” to living “in this country.” The few letters written during his service in the region throw no additional light on its history nor on the crises incident to the competitive situation in which McLoughlin worked. Similarly his letters from Fort Vancouver are not concerned with affairs of state nor the conditions of the country, but rather with family worries. The chief of these was the education of his children. From an exchange of letters between Dr. McLoughlin and his uncle, Dr. Simon Fraser, and among Dr. Fraser, his son, and McLoughlin’s son, John, emerges the tragic theme of the chief factor's family life. John junior was a problem child in an otherwise ordered family.

While Mr. Barker’s ascription of “empires” and rulership to members of the McLoughlin family may be a bit far-fetched, the letters do reveal personalities of wide-ranging abilities, of stubborn pride, quick tempers, and sometimes overweening ambitions. The careers of the chief factor’s brother David, a surgeon of renown in Louis Philippe’s Paris, and of his sister Mary Louise, Mother Superior St. Henry of the Ursuline convent in Quebec, as well as Dr. John McLoughlin’s career in the Columbia department indicate something of the aspirations and accomplishments of the family.

John McLoughlin, Jr., shared the strengths and the weaknesses of his father, uncle, and aunt. He was handicapped by too much direction from all of them, and, further, by a lack of the virtues which his father extolled as primary to success—steadiness and determination. At times a pathetic figure, always to the reader of these letters an exasperating one, this boy in whose veins flowed one-quarter Indian blood was the cause of his father’s greatest grief and generally of the family’s continuous worry.

Efforts to make John a “gentleman” did not succeed, inasmuch as he failed to become a doctor or to enter an occupation superior to those provided by “the Country,” which was, for him, synonymous with a minor role in the fur trade. Sent back to Canada in disgrace from Paris, where he had studied briefly with his Uncle David, he failed to matriculate at McGill University. The common complaint of those who tried to guide him, and at the same time protect Dr. McLoughlin’s generous investment in his education, was that he was irresponsible and

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December 1959
that his excesses and extravagances were beyond their power to control, despite their best efforts.

The one gesture the "poor boy," as he was referred to by his aunt, the mother superior, made to independence of action was at best quixotic, in any other light, fantastic. In company with other mixed-blood sons of officials in the fur trade, in the summer of 1836 he joined "General" James Dickson's Army of Liberation for the Indian Nations. His only articulated purpose in doing so was the anticipation of becoming an officer, replete with epaulet and sword, in the founding of Dickson's projected state in California. John's brief letters fill in a few details of the adventure otherwise fully chronicled in Martin McLeod's Diary, published in Minnesota History, 4:354-418. En route to the Red River to call up the métis and Indians, the expedition of sixty, including some Americans, was reduced to twenty. Enduring to the last, however, were the young men who sought this means of establishing themselves in a society otherwise hostile to their ambitions. Their taste for adventure more than satisfied by their experiences on Lake Superior and in crossing the prairie, some of them succumbed to wily Governor George Simpson's offer of safe berths as clerks in the Hudson's Bay Company. John was sent to the Columbia, where for several years he worked satisfactorily under the watchful eye of his father. Placed in charge of the dangerous post on the isolated Stikine, John was murdered by his own men in 1841.

Mr. Barker is to be commended for his introduction, which unfolds the relationships of the various individuals concerned in the letters and documents. This volume is, indeed, a monument to the author's loving persistence through many years to bring together every scrap of evidence that might further reveal his hero. Dr. John McLoughlin, chief factor.

**HIGH PLAINS TRIBES**

*Indians of the High Plains from the Prehistoric Period to the Coming of Europeans.* By George E. Hyde. (Norman, University of Oklahoma Press, 1959. xiii, 231 p. Illustrations, maps. $4.00.)

Reviewed by John C. Ewers

FOR A CENTURY and a half the pattern of Indian occupation of the High Plains during the long interval between the explorations of Coronado and those of Lewis and Clark has remained one of the most complex and least understood major problems in the history of the trans-Mississippi West. Now Mr. Hyde, whose more than fifty years of patient research entitled him to recognition as the dean of Plains Indian historians, has provided the first comprehensive account of the dynamic history of intertribal conflicts and tribal movements on the High Plains between 1541 and 1894. This book represents his mature evaluation of the many contemporary and often conflicting references to and descriptions of the Western Plains Indians appearing in Spanish, French, and English documents of the period, as well as his interpretations of the reports of archaeologists who have explored protohistoric and early historic camp and village sites in this region during the past thirty years.

From Mr. Hyde's studies of these many and varied sources, there emerges a history of the struggle for power and territory on the High Plains that involved Athapascan, Caddoan, Shoshonean, Kiowan, Alkonkian, and Siouan speaking tribes. In these early conflicts indirect European influences played roles of decisive importance. Especially during the century preceding Lewis and Clark's explorations, the acquisition of horses and firearms and the spread of white men's plagues strongly affected the course of intertribal conflicts and tribal movements in the vast grasslands.

From Coronado's time until the early eighteenth century the Apache tribes dominated the High Plains south of the Platte. Their acquisition of horses helped them to hold the region from Texas and New Mexico northward to western Nebraska and to resist the incursions of less mobile tribes from the East. But early in the eighteenth century well-mounted Shoshoneans crossed the Rockies and began to make life miserable for the Apache. The Comanche obtained trade guns and relentlessly pushed the Apache southward. Meanwhile, their kinsmen, the Snakes, moved eastward farther north and took over much of present Wyoming and Montana. They raided as far east as the Black Hills.
and northward to the valley of the Saskatchewan. By 1750 the Comanche had replaced the Apache as the dominant power on the Southern Plains. But the Snakes were beset by strong, westward moving Algonkian and Siouan tribes. Lacking firearms and weakened by the smallpox epidemic of 1780–81, the Snakes were driven westward by gun-toting, mounted Blackfoot, Gros Ventre, and Crow Indians. By 1800 most of the Snakes had retreated beyond the Rockies, and their former hunting grounds on the Plains came into the possession of the Blackfoot, Gros Ventre, Arapaho, Cheyenne, Crow, and Teton Dakota — nomadic tribes which were to remain militant powers on the High Plains until the end of buffalo days and their confinement upon reservations.

Historians and anthropologists will question some of the details of Mr. Hyde's account, especially his courageous efforts to identify some of the little-known tribes, vaguely described and given strange names by early European explorers and traders. Nevertheless, I believe the author's general outline of High Plains history during this long and crucial period is essentially correct.

**EXPLORING TRADER**

*Adventures of Zenas Leonard, Fur Trader.*
Edited by John C. Ewers. (Norman, University of Oklahoma Press, 1959. xxxv, 172 p. Illustrations, map. $4.00.)

Reviewed by John Francis McDermott

IN APRIL, 1831, Zenas Leonard, a restless young man from Pennsylvania, set out from St. Louis as clerk of a fur-trading expedition to the Rocky Mountains. After a winter's trapping on the Laramie, his employers dissolved partnership and for more than a year Leonard roamed the mountains as a free trapper. Meeting Captain Benjamin Bonneville at the Green River rendezvous in July, 1833, he joined this party and was sent overland to California as clerk to Captain Joseph R. Walker, Bonneville's lieutenant. On their return to Bear River a year later, Leonard hunted and trapped for Bonneville in the Crow country on the Yellowstone and Wind rivers, returning to Missouri with Captain Bonneville in August, 1835.

During his travels Leonard kept a diary, a portion of which was stolen by Indians. Within a few years of his return home, however, repeated requests for the story of his adventures—and though modestly told they were indeed exciting—led him to publish a complete account in 1839. Although reprinted several times in limited editions, his *Adventures* has remained a rare book. Once more the University of Oklahoma Press has done a real service in making available a narrative long recognized as of first importance in the history of the fur trade and as a significant document of Western exploration.

In an excellently compact introduction, Mr. Ewers has summed up the history of the fur trade on the upper waters of the Missouri from the transfer of Louisiana until Leonard arrived to share in it. The narrative has been annotated with the care and discretion we expect from such an expert. This twenty-eighth volume in the Oklahoma publisher's *American Exploration and Travel Series* is appropriately illustrated, has a map, is indexed, and is dressed in the attractive format customary with the books issued by this press.

**CANADA IN PICTURES**


Reviewed by Bertha L. Heilbron

THE USER who expects the content of this book to be as inclusive as its title will be disappointed. Actually, the work is based upon the pictures in the Sigmund Samuel Canadiana Collection of the Royal Ontario Museum in Toronto, of which the author is curator. Much of the text is in catalogue form, and all the illustrations are drawn from the magnificent, though highly specialized, collection which has been entrusted to Mr. Spendlove's care.

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MR. McDERMOTT is associate professor of English in Washington University, St. Louis. He is widely known for his many books and articles on the upper Mississippi and Missouri valleys.

MISS HEILBRON is the editor of this magazine and the author of a pictorial history of Minnesota published in 1958.
In his preface, the author announces his purpose—"to offer an outline, brief but possibly a stimulus to thought, of the most widely-distributed and characteristic pictures of early Canada, of the conditions under which they were produced, and of the personalities of the artists who first drew them." Although he notes that most of the important early pictures are prints—line engravings, etchings, aquatints, mezzotints, and lithographs—he does occasionally give attention to a water color or an oil. "Portraits are not included, as belonging more to the field of biography." Mr. Spendlove begins his study with 1556, when Ramusio's plan of the Indian village of Hochelaga was published, and ends with 1867, the year of Canadian confederation. He notes that the pictures of Canada produced during this period "were largely topographical and were usually done by artists from Europe." It was not until after confederation that a "truly Canadian art" evolved.

Some of the seventeen chapters into which Mr. Spendlove divides his book are concerned with the work of individual artists; others emphasize the pictorial records of a city or a province. A chapter on "Prints of Toronto" deals largely with those produced by Currier and Ives and William Armstrong. Another is devoted mainly to Edwin Whitefield's prints of Canadian cities. The work of Cornelius Kreighoff is given a separate chapter. The illustrations produced by Henry J. Warre for Captain M. Vavasour's narrative of their Oregon expedition of 1846, including one of Fort Garry, and six prints of the Red River country based on the work of Peter Rindisbacher are listed with various other items in a single chapter. For Minnesotans, the latter have far more interest than most of the pictures considered in this book. Of local significance, too, is the author's sketch of Whitefield, whose numerous water colors and prints of the Minnesota country in the 1850s are well known.

A hundred and twenty-two of the pictures discussed are reproduced in a pictorial section which follows the text, and six color plates are scattered throughout the volume. A bibliography and a special index of authors, engravers, and publishers add to the usefulness of the work. Although the book will prove helpful to all who are concerned with visual records of Canada, it in no way fills the need for a pictorial history of the northern Dominion.

EXPANDING UNIVERSITY

University of the Northern Plains: A History of the University of North Dakota, 1883-1968. By Louis G. Geiger. (Grand Forks, The University of North Dakota Press, 1958. xiv, 491 p. Illustrations. $5.00.)

Reviewed by Jean A. Brookins

This DIAMOND anniversary volume recounts how a Midwestern university clung to the ideal of classical education for seventy-five years and adapted it to the needs of an agrarian state. Organized chronologically, Mr. Geiger's narrative begins at the time the university was founded on a barren, sparsely settled frontier and continues to 1958, when, he says, the school emerged into "maturity" and an era of "expanding intellectual leadership and service." In some detail, the author describes the struggles of North Dakota educators at the university to cope with economic depressions, political controversy, wars, and internal dissension. His appraisal of each of the school's presidents is candid, and he makes no attempt to gloss over any embarrassing conflicts or irresponsible actions.

Mr. Geiger has tried to weave several threads into the fabric of the book. These, in his own words, are the "effect of the general trends in higher education upon this particular institution, the aims and ideals of the University and those who support it, the University's role in the educational system of North Dakota, the influence of the University upon the life and development of the state, the impact of North Dakota political and economic conditions upon the University, and the life of the University itself." The result of his efforts is not as austere as one might expect; it is a readable, sometimes humorous narrative, which will probably find its most appreciative audience among the students, faculty, and graduates of the school.

Minnesotans often will find familiar names among those of important personalities in the North Dakota university's story; learned men in our own state—notably William W. Folwell, Cyrus Northrop, and Lotus D. Coffman—are also mentioned as figures who influenced educational circles of Minnesota's sister state.

Mr. Geiger has included a helpful bibliog-
graphical note on source materials in his work, which he completes with appendixes of pertinent documents and an index.

DENOMINATIONAL HISTORY

God Giveth the Increase: The History of the Episcopal Church in North Dakota. By Robert P. Wilkins and Wynona H. Wilkins. (Fargo, North Dakota Institute for Regional Studies, 1959. xiv, 208 p. Illustrations. $4.00.)

Reviewed by F. Sanford Cutler

ALTHOUGH this book has ably fulfilled the normal task of a diocesan history in presenting a factual record of the development of the Episcopal church in North Dakota, it has also performed a far greater service by organizing the facts into a readable and well-organized story. Not only are the many obstacles facing the growth of the church in the state carefully analyzed — including the inhospitable climate, crop failures and agricultural depressions with their effects upon an already inadequate budget, and the scattered population, a large proportion of which was already affiliated with other churches — but there is a candid discussion of the lack of support from the rest of the church and the parallel failure of members within the district to attempt to pay their own way. The fact that the district did not minister adequately to Indians, in contrast to the situation in Minnesota and South Dakota, is also discussed, as is the ever-continuing shortage of clergy.

Anyone who still believes the fiction that the Episcopal church is wedded to political conservatism will be disillusioned by this book, for the authors point out the heavy influence of the Social Gospel among the clergy of North Dakota. The Reverend Paul Jones, who had been forced to resign as bishop of Utah because of his opposition to World War I, was invited to preach in the district, and the Church League for Industrial Democracy was fairly active there. Individual priests seem to have been openly sympathetic to the various protest movements, and on occasion to have actively participated in them.

MINORITY GROUP

The Jews in Minnesota: The First Seventy-five Years (American Jewish Communal Histories, no. 3). By W. Gunther Plaut. (New York, American Jewish Historical Society, 1959. xii, 317 p. $5.75.)

Reviewed by Carlton C. Qualey

THE AUTHOR of this work has given us the first adequate history of the Jewish element in the population of Minnesota. The volume is based on extensive research in previously unused manuscript sources, most of them located in the manuscript division of the Minnesota Historical Society. The largest single body of such materials is the Hiram D. Frankel Papers, of

MR. CUTLER, a former curator of the society's museum, is now studying for the Episcopal ministry at Berkeley, California.
In general, Rabbi Plaut has made a notable contribution to our knowledge of the Jews of Minnesota. Although the larger matter of acculturation of the Jews in Minnesota's population and life is not given adequate treatment here, a long and overdue step has been taken toward a definitive study of this important element in the history of the state.

**GEOLOGICAL HISTORY**

*The Geology of Cook County, Minnesota (Minnesota Geological Survey, Bulletins, no. 39).*

By FRANK F. GROUT, ROBERT P. SHARP, GEORGE M. SCHWARTZ. (Minneapolis, The University of Minnesota Press, 1959. xvi, 163 p. Illustrations, maps, plates. $4.00.)

Reviewed by June Drenning Holmquist

SCHOLARS interested in northern Minnesota will welcome this report on the complex geology of Cook County. As the latest in the series of *Bulletins* issued over the years by the Minnesota Geological Survey, the work is a fitting monument to the late Professor Grout, whose studies of the northeasternmost county in the state began in 1913 and continued intermittently until 1956. In a brief "Foreword," Professor Schwartz pays tribute to the senior author who devoted most of a lifetime to "this remote and comparatively wild area" on Lake Superior's North Shore.

Very little information is in print on Cook County as a unit, although the portion of it lying along the Minnesota-Ontario boundary has received attention from historians, and various aspects of the border area's geology have been treated in earlier *Bulletins*. As might be expected, the bulk of the authors' space in the present work is devoted to chapters on Cook County's "General Geology," its "Glacial Geology," and to township-by-township discussions. This geological detail is welcome, for the only previous description of the county appears in the fourth volume of Newton H. Winchell's *Geology of Minnesota*, published in 1899. Much has been learned in the interval, and it is pleasant to have up-to-date geological data between the covers of a single volume. For users of the

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320 MINNESOTA History
book who are dismayed by technical data, the authors have thoughtfully provided a "Summary of the Geological History of Cook County," tracing its evolution through volcanic action and erosion to the glacial period that ended ten thousand years ago.

The authors express the hope that the report "will be useful in the development of the county," which at present depends upon its forest resources and resort business as "the main sources of revenue." To this end, they offer an interesting chapter on "Economic Geology," in which they discuss the presence of such minerals as iron, copper, nickel, cobalt, and anorthosite—a future "potential source of aluminum." Also reviewed are the area’s gravel and sand deposits, its soil, its unexcelled water supply in Lake Superior, and its forest resources. In addition, the report summarizes considerable general information on the county and includes an excellent chapter on "General Features," which deals with the lakes, rivers, hills, and climate of the area.

No fewer than sixteen large plates detailing township and glacial features, the general geology of the county, the sequence of lava flows along the North Shore, and the formations of the Gunflint iron-ore district are folded into a pocket in the back of the book. Other township maps, as well as more than thirty well-chosen illustrations and tables, appear in the text.

STEAM LOCOMOTIVES

Steam's Finest Hour. Edited by David P. Morgan. (Milwaukee, Kalmbach Publishing Company, 1959. 127 p. Illustrations. $15.00.)

Reviewed by Frank P. Donovan, Jr.

THIS IS a paean to the steam locomotive of North America in picture and text. It covers the "modern" steam engine from 1922, when W. E. Woodard designed a Lima-built Mikado-type locomotive, to the glory of steam a few years back, and the almost "steamless" present. Mr. Morgan suggests 1922 as the turning point. Before that date emphasis was on bigger engines; later it was on better, though not necessarily larger, longer, or heavier engines.

The "heroes" of this book are the products of American, Baldwin, and Lima locomotive works. The pride of each is paraded before the reader with the loving care and affection others may bestow on flesh and blood horses. Yet for all its nostalgia, one refrains from mentioning locomotives as "iron horses," for it would be most inappropriate in this volume. The contemporary steam engine is as different from the old American type, which linked the country in 1869, as is the Model-T Ford from its fluid drive successor.

Once having stated his thesis, Mr. Morgan unfolds his steam panorama region by region. All significant developments in modern engine refinements are covered with carefully weighted emphasis. Each of the seven regional chapters begins with a meaty two-page introduction. Representative king-size photographs follow—action shots on the left, side views with dimensions on the right. There is also a penultimate section on modern power in Canada and Mexico followed by a chapter on the "last word" in steam switchers.

Minnesota readers will find considerable material on their state in the sections on the Middle West and the West. What steam lover can forget the majestic Northerns of the Northern Pacific on the "longest coal-burning locomotive run in the world" from St. Paul to Missoula, Montana? The Great Northern, too, is featured with its homemade Simple Articulated 2-8-8-2, unmatched by any other locomotive of its type in tractive power. And there were the Milwaukee Road's fleet Atlantics, whose seven-foot driving wheels sped the "Hiawathas" at better than a hundred miles per hour on the hotly competitive Twin Cities-Chicago run. One can go on to recall the rebuilt Mikados of the Minneapolis and St. Louis, coming from the road's Cedar Lake shops; the thirty-six Texas-type engines of the Chicago Great Western, first of their kind in the Midwest; and the Omaha Road's beautiful 4-8-4s, proclaimed in 1929 the "largest dual-service locomotives in the world."

Mr. Morgan's book reflects good research and scholarly production slanted for the railroad fan and especially the steam locomotive enthusiast. But it should also have appeal for the historian and business writer. The general reader may balk at some of the technical items and wish for more photographs of an aesthetic nature, rather than those depicting a type of power. The elon-
gated format, eleven by sixteen inches in size, permits large illustrations showing motive power in considerable detail.

**WORKING BY HAND**

*Vanishing Crafts and Their Craftsmen.* By **ROL- LIN C. STEINMETZ** and **CHARLES S. RICE.** (New Brunswick, New Jersey, Rutgers University Press, 1959. 160 p. Illustrations. $4.75.)

Reviewed by James Taylor Dunn

THIS SMALL BOOK, illustrated with many photographs, considers a few of the family crafts being practiced today in Pennsylvania and New York. The authors give us not a “how-to-do-it” volume, but a series of personal interviews which stress the “why.” The book could well be used as a model for a similar work or for a series of newspaper articles on small businesses and handicrafts now being carried on in Minnesota. For example, there are still numerous one-room schoolhouses in the state. St. Paul has, among others, a custom shoemaker, an old-fashioned blacksmith, and a Swedish glass cutter.

Undoubtedly, similar examples could be found elsewhere in the state. Hand skills, as a means of employment, although fast disappearing from the contemporary scene, are perhaps not quite as forgotten as they appear to be in our age of mass production. One writer has pointed out that the farm family is no longer fed, clothed, shod, sheltered, and warmed “wholly from the products gathered from within its own fence line.” Nevertheless, in Minnesota, especially among Scandinavian immigrant families, such self-containment is certainly within the memory of a generation only once removed from our own.

**CATLIN’S CARTOONS**

THE PICTURES painted by George Catlin while traveling “in South America and along the coast of North America west of the Rocky Mountains” in the 1850s and 1860s are featured in a recent work published by the University of Oklahoma Press as the fifty-fifth volume in its *Civilization of the American Indian Series.* The work, which bears the title *George Catlin: Epis- episodes from Life Among the Indians and Last Rambles* (Norman, 1959. xxv, 357 p. $12.50), consists of extracts from books first issued in 1861 and 1866 and from a catalogue of 1871 — “all of Catlin’s published writings of any importance dealing with his last travels in the Americas” — as well as “152 scenes and portraits by the artist” produced in the same period. Although the title page credits Marvin C. Ross with editing the book, he appears to have done little more than select the material here reprinted and provide a brief introduction for the work. His function seems to have been that of a compiler, rather than an editor, since he has furnished neither annotation nor introductory notes for Catlin’s text. The book’s chief value doubtless stems from the fact that here, “for the first time,” Catlin’s “later on-the-spot work is . . . illustrated as a whole.” With one exception, the paintings reproduced are from the “Cartoon Collection,” painted on Bristol board, rather than canvas, now owned by the American Museum of Natural History in New York. Although they are intended to illustrate the narratives reprinted in the present work, the pictures appear in a separate section at the back of the book. A painting of three Crow Indians, reproduced in color as a frontispiece and on the jacket, is from the Henry E. Huntington Library and Art Gallery at San Marino, California.

B.L.H.

**RAILROAD TALES**

THE CAREER of Harry Bedwell, Last of the Great Railroad Storytellers, is reviewed by Frank P. Donovan, Jr., in a little book recently issued by Ross and Haines (Minneapolis, 1959. 119 p.). Since his subject’s career centered largely in Iowa and states farther west, Mr. Donovan’s narrative deals chiefly with these areas and with the Burlington Road, for which Bedwell worked. The latter’s experiences in railroading are reflected in a book of fiction and some seventy short stories and articles, which give him an important “place in the railroad school of literature.” Before assessing “Bedwell’s contribution to specialized writing and to Americana,” Mr. Donovan presents a “brief resume of the Railroad School.” He also stresses Bedwell’s contribution in recording the “folksways of railroading.” A bibliography of “Bedwell’s Published Works,” as well as a “General Bibliography,” are provided for the reader’s convenience.

MR. DUNN is librarian of the Minnesota Historical Society.
VOLUME 24 of the Territorial Papers of the United States, compiled and edited by Clarence E. Carter, is composed of documents relating to the Territory of Florida from 1828 to 1834 (Washington, 1959). Although the work could hardly be expected to include material of Northwest interest, it does contain references to some of the individuals who figured in Minnesota’s, as well as Florida’s, history. There are, for example, numerous letters to and from as well as mentions of Lewis Cass, who became secretary of war in 1831, and material of value for the study of Thomas L. McKenney as commissioner of Indian affairs. In a letter of July 17, 1828, the latter is commended by Governor William P. DuVal for “his knowledge of the Indian Character, habits and Manners,” which “better qualify him for effecting the views of the Gov’t in relation to these unfortunate people than any other man I have ever known.”

IT WAS the “fur trader in the wilderness, making allies and building palisaded trading posts, or forts, who determined colonial borders and who largely influenced the outcome of the imperialistic struggle for the continent.” Thus writes Nathaniel C. Hale in the preface to his recently published Pelts and Palisades: The Story of Fur and the Rivalry for Pelts in Early America (Richmond, Virginia, The Dietz Press, Inc., 1959. xi, 219 p. $4.75.) Of the seventeen chapters which comprise this work, sixteen are concerned with the Atlantic seaboard; only the final section touches briefly and not too accurately on the West and the Mississippi Valley. Here, for example, one is a bit astonished to read that Jean Nicolec (misspelled “Nicollet”) “impressed the Dacotahs” when he stepped ashore on Green Bay, and that “Fort d’Huiller [sic] on the Minnesota” was one of the “French trading citadels” that “soon dotted the Mississippi valley.” Such instances of careless editing and proofreading detract seriously from any value the work might have.

AN ESSAY and three speeches by Stephen A. Douglas, two speeches of Abraham Lincoln, and one by Jeremiah Black, all dating from September, 1859, are brought together in a little book recently published by the Ohio State University Press for the Ohio Historical Society (Columbus, 1959. x, 307 p. $5.00.). They have been edited and provided with an introduction by Harry V. Jaffa and Robert W. Johannsen, who entitle their work In the Name of the People: Speeches and Writings of Lincoln and Douglas in the Ohio Campaign of 1859. In a brief preface, Professor Jaffa points out that “Lincoln’s Ohio speeches have always been available either in the Debates or in his Collected Works,” whereas those by Douglas “have been locked in the columns of the papers that first reported them.” The essay included is “The Dividing Line between Federal and Local Authority,” which first appeared in Harper’s Magazine.

A CONFERENCE centering about “Research Opportunities in American Cultural History,” held at Washington University in St. Louis on October 23 and 24, included papers by two Minnesotans. Dean Theodore C. Blegen of the graduate school in the University of Minnesota discussed “The Immigrant,” and Professor Philip D. Jordan of the history department surveyed “The Theater, Music, and Amusements.” Among frequent contributors to this magazine who participated were Professors John Francis McDermott of Washington University and John T. Flanagan of the University of Illinois. A grant from the Lilly Endowment made the conference possible.

SIX TELEVISION programs featuring “Our American Heritage” as illustrated in the careers of distinguished national leaders are being produced during the current winter by the American Heritage Publishing Company over the National Broadcasting Company’s network. They re-enact some of the little-known events in the lives of Thomas Jefferson, October 18; Eli Whitney, November 22; John C. Fremont, January 24; Ulysses S. Grant, February 21; Oliver Wendell Holmes, Jr., March 20; and Andrew Carnegie, April 10. The series is sponsored by the Equitable Life Assurance Society of the United States in commemoration of its centennial.

IN AN article on “Pirated Editions of Schoolcraft’s Onæota,” appearing in the Papers of the Bibliographical Society of America for July-September, John Finley Freeman expresses the belief that while Schoolcraft may correctly be suspected of opportunism in revising his early publications for a new market, “no such motive accounts for the eleven variant editions and five different titles of Onæota appearing from 1844 to 1853.” The writer records that “This miscellany of travel and Indian lore, after three appearances under its original title, was pirated by
booksellers who printed seven different editions under four new titles." A check list of the several editions, three of which are in the library of the Minnesota Historical Society, appears with the article.

THE MAY ISSUE of the Journal of the Michigan State Medical Society is a "Beaumont Memorial Foundation Number" devoted largely to illustrated articles about Dr. William Beaumont and his voyageur patient, Alexis St. Martin. Several of the items included are by Dr. Alfred H. Whittaker, who discusses "Beaumont and His Contribution to Medicine," and lists and describes the existing "Centers of Beaumont Interest." Among the latter is Fort Crawford at Prairie du Chien, where both Beaumont and St. Martin spent the years from 1829 to 1831. Of primary interest is Dr. Whittaker's description of the Beaumont Memorial on Mackinac Island. There the "building which was the American Fur Company's retail store, in which Alexis St. Martin was accidentally injured" has been restored as a Beaumont Memorial, and a monument to the pioneering doctor has been erected. A biographical sketch of St. Martin, contributed by Dr. Edward H. Bensley of Montreal, includes not only the story of the voyageur's injury and his long association with Beaumont, but an account of his later life in eastern Canada, where he died in 1880 at the age of eighty-six.

THE MYSTERIES of the divining rod, the forked stick, the pendulum, and other apparatus used to locate underground water are discussed by Evon Z. Vogt and Ray Hyman in their study of Water Witching U.S.A. (Chicago, 1959. 248 p.). The authors take no side in the controversial subject; instead, they have interpreted, as objectively as possible, the results of their nation-wide survey on current uses of water witching. They assembled data by means of a questionnaire designed to recruit information on the prevalence of witching; on "how much it is practiced and under what conditions—geographical, geological, meteorological, and cultural—it occurs"; on the "kinds of people American diviners are—how they came to take up the rod, how they feel about it, and how they explain their activities to themselves and to others." The answers received by the authors are combined with information from previously published works on the subject to produce a book of high interest, which includes a bibliography and photographs illustrating various methods of water witching.

SOME UNUSUAL bits of information about a trader and surveyor for the Hudson's Bay Company for more than thirty years following 1787 are presented by Vera Fidler in an article on "The Odd Will of Peter Fidler," which appears in the Canadian Geographical Journal for October. Here described are his services as mapmaker for the Hudson's Bay Company, first in association with David Thompson and later in an independent role, and his surveys of such areas as the Red River Settlement.

THE OPENING installment of the "Journal of Charles Jean Baptiste Chaboillez, 1797-1798," kept while trading in the Pembina area, has been edited by Harold Hickerson and published in the Summer number of Ethnohistory. Chaboillez left what Mr. Hickerson describes as the "first account of trade with the Indians, most or all of them Chippewas," in the country about the junction of the Red and Pembina rivers. The trader provides a "picture of Chippewa economic and political organization, merely by recording in detail their visits to his post, the points from which they arrived, and the provisions and peltries they brought in, or kept en cache." In addition to an introduction, Mr. Hickerson provides the journal with more than a hundred annotations.

THE INDUSTRIOUS research of Joseph Earl Arrington, whose writings on mid-nineteenth-century panoramas have long been familiar to readers of this magazine, has again yielded a detailed report on a long-forgotten ancestor of the modern movies. Dealing with "William Burr's Moving Panorama of the Great Lakes, the Niagara, St. Lawrence and Saguenay Rivers," his latest article appears in the summer issue of Ontario History. The narrative follows the pattern of Mr. Arrington's earlier contributions, with information on the panorama movement, on the artist's career, his experiences in collecting sketches and painting his huge canvas, on the picture itself as revealed in the accompanying text and in newspaper reports, and on its rise and decline as an entertainment feature. During the 1830s, the St. Lawrence panorama supposedly was "viewed by over two million persons in the course of 2,478 exhibitions in the Atlantic coast cities," according to Mr. Arrington. He expresses the belief that the picture "had some influence upon popular and official relations between Canada and the United States in the middle of the last century."

FROM the French explorers of the sixteenth century to 1959, the story of the St. Lawrence Seaway is briefly reviewed by Clara Ingram Judson in a readable little book issued as the gigantic project was completed (Chicago, 1959.
Throughout her narrative, Mrs. Judson stresses the fact that the seaway became a reality because Canada and the United States "joined in planning, constructing, paying for, and using facilities for navigation and for power on their unfortified frontiers." After mentioning the travels of explorers like La Salle, Marquette, and Joliet, who followed the St. Lawrence-Great Lakes route westward to the Mississippi, the author describes the building of the many canals that gradually opened the waterway to larger and larger vessels. About a third of the book is devoted to the power project and the era of construction that eventually resulted in the seaway. Photographs and maps add greatly to the interest of the narrative.

AN ACCOUNT of the Red River rebellion of 1869 by Charles Mair, "one of the chief causes of unrest" in the settlement as well as "one of the main participants in the 'Rebellion' itself," is the primary source for a documentary article contributed to the September issue of the Canadian Historical Review by F. N. Shrive. The original document is in the Mair Papers in the Queen’s University Library. According to Mr. Shrive, Mair's narrative gives "specific details of [some] happenings which historians have had to treat with conjecture," including the "march of the Portage loyalists" to relieve the prisoners in Fort Garry.

PUBLICATIONS issued in Minnesota and in North and South Dakota are listed and described in part 1 of the second series of Catholic Serials of the Nineteenth Century in the United States: A Descriptive Bibliography and Union List, published by the Catholic University of America Press (Washington, 1959. 68 p.). Information for the present list has been compiled by Eugene P. Willging and Herta Hatzfeld, who devote fifty-four pages to Minnesota. Included in the survey are chronological and alphabetical tables and lists of publications issued in a dozen localities. In addition to the state's three major communities, the latter include Belle Prairie, Collegeville, Iona, Mendota, New Prague, St. Cloud, Tower, White Earth, and Winona. In their acknowledgments, the writers note that much of their material was located in the libraries of St. John's University and the Minnesota Historical Society.

TWO of a series of projected booklets on the Origins of North Dakota Place Names have been compiled and published by Mary Ann B. Williams. Together they cover seven of the state's fifty-three counties — Morton, Mercer, Oliver, Grant, Sioux, McLean, and Burleigh (1959. 34, 26 p.). Mrs. Williams includes only the places that "white men have established and named," omitting names of geographical areas and Indian villages. The same bibliography of the author's sources is included in each booklet.

THE MINNESOTA SCENE

WRITING in the New York Times Book Review for August 16, J. C. Furnas offers the suggestion that Charles M. Flandrau may well have "had a great deal to do with what [F. Scott] Fitzgerald did and how he did it." For the two Minnesota authors, Mr. Furnas points out some "striking coincidences in biography: Flandrau too was born in St. Paul . . . in the heart of the top stratum of local society on the fringes of which Fitzgerald was reared. He was fairly well accepted at Harvard, as was Fitzgerald at Princeton, yet both always felt like Midwestern outsiders." Mr. Furnas feels "certain that the Fitzgerald of the campus stories had been soaked in" Flandrau's Harvard Episodes, written soon after the older man left college.

A MOVEMENT looking toward the preservation of a section of the Northwest Angle on Minnesota’s northern boundary as a national monument is described in the St. Paul Dispatch for November 4. According to the writer, Lyttton Taylor, "the inclusion of the Northwest Angle in the National Parks system would provide a bastion at each end of the famous Voyageurs highway through the lakes along the international boundary,” since Grand Portage on Lake Superior has already been designated a national monument. Although the angle now can be reached only by boats navigating the Lake of the Woods, it will soon be accessible by land with the construction of a road linking Warroad with the new Trans-Canada Highway. Participating in the campaign for this new national monument in the state are the Minnesota Historical Society and the conservation department, as well as Mr. Sigurd Olson of Ely.

PROJECTED plans for highway construction that will give Fort Snelling a "facelifting" and perhaps result in the development of the site as a state park are described by Martin Merrick in the Minneapolis Star for October 21. The writer reports that the Minnesota highway department's plans include a tunnel to carry traffic under the fort grounds, thus preserving remains of the historic frontier outpost. He also shows how the "old fort site, with its chapel, round tower and other buildings" plus "2,000 acres of the Minnesota river bottoms" can be preserved as a state park.
THE experiences of fourteen student archaeologists who went “Digging into Itasca’s Past” during the summer of 1959 are described by Walter Bateman in the St. Paul Pioneer Press Pictorial Magazine for September 20. Led by Professor Elden Johnson, the students investigated Hill Point, near Schoerlack Island, and uncovered Blackduck pottery fragments, primitive tools, animal bones, and other items. Photographs show the archaeologists at work and the results of their digging.

REACTIONS to the Indian conflict of 1862 not only in Minnesota, but in Wisconsin, Iowa, Dakota Territory, Kansas, and Nebraska, are described by Robert Huhn Jones in an article on “The Northwestern Frontier and the Impact of the Sioux War” published in Mid-America for July. In general, however, the writer adds little to the oft-told story of the Minnesota outbreak. For his material, Professor Jones leans heavily on government documents and contemporary printed narratives, overlooking manuscript sources and Dr. Folwell’s detailed account of the events of 1862. He uses the latter work only as a source for the number of casualties resulting from the massacre, citing figures that have been considerably revised since 1924. Many readers of Mr. Jones’s account will be inclined to quarrel with his statement that “the names of John Pope and Henry H. Sibley, men who first handled the Sioux problem, have been all but forgotten.”

A REVIEW of activities and chapters in Minnesota is contributed by Anna M. Heilmaier to a booklet on the Special Libraries Association — Its First Fifty Years, 1909-1959, edited by Alma Clarvee Mitchell and published by the association (New York, 1959. 120 p.). The organization “was formed in 1909 by librarians of business, professional, governmental and industrial organizations to promote the collection, organization and dissemination of information in specialized fields and to improve the usefulness of special libraries and information services.” More than three decades elapsed, however, before a chapter was organized in Minnesota. Miss Heilmaier reveals that the state group had its inception in 1934, when about twenty librarians assembled in St. Paul to consider the possibility of organizing. Annual meetings, publications, activities, and a national convention held in St. Paul in June, 1951, are among the matters covered in this four-page sketch.

A CENTURY of Minnesota Agriculture — Livestock, 1858-1958 is surveyed by David O. Mesick in a useful pamphlet compiled and issued by the Minnesota department of agriculture, dairy, and food (St. Paul, 1959. 45 p.). Tables, maps, and graphs provide information on trends in the production, value, and number of livestock in the state. The study is concerned with beef and dairy cattle, dairy products, hogs, sheep, chickens, eggs, turkeys, bees, and honey, as well as horses and mules.

ARTICLES on the beginnings of Methodism in America are featured in the November issue of Together, which commemorates the one-hundred-and-seventy-fifth anniversary of this religious denomination. It is accompanied by a “Minnesota Area News Edition” in which the leading article is devoted to Jacob Fahlstrom as an “Early Methodist Convert.” Included is a brief sketch of this Minnesota fur trader.

THE POLITICAL activities of Swedish pioneers like Hans Mattson are described by Reinhard H. Luthin in an article entitled “Politics as Usual: Seeking Swedish-American Votes,” in the American Swedish Monthly for August. Throughout the last half of the nineteenth century, “vote-aviscious politicians of all parties were courting naturalized Swedes at the ballot boxes, particularly in Minnesota and Illinois,” writes Mr. Luthin. During that era Hans Mattson “was the best known Swede in American politics,” in the author’s opinion. Leaders of Swedish birth and descent “quite naturally found their greatest political success and honor in Minnesota,” whereas, according to Mr. Luthin, “they were most numerous and could exert their influence at the polls.”

STUDENTS of labor history will be interested in a section on the “1934 battles that converted Minneapolis from an open-shop to a union town” appearing in James P. Cannon’s Notebook of an Agitator (New York, 1938). The eight short articles here reprinted were originally prepared for The Organizer, a “daily strike bulletin” issued in Minneapolis during the summer of 1934. All reflect the partisan socialist viewpoint of the writer.

THE TWIN CITIES are among the “River Towns in Central United States” discussed by Andrew F. Burghardt in the September issue of the Annals of the Association of American Geographers. Minneapolis and St. Paul “form what is probably the most interesting urban development along the Mississippi,” according to Mr. Burghardt. He notes that since about 1880 Minneapolis has continued to grow at such a rapid rate that it “may in a few more decades have twice as many inhabitants as St. Paul.” The
MiU City's growth, the writer believes, is largely the result of its location on the west side of the river, where it can intercept the trade coming to the area from the vast western plains. "St. Paul is still the more important river port," the author concludes, "but Minneapolis has become the predominant wholesaling center."

"FOUNDING the New Ulm Colony" is described by Peter Mack, a member of the Chicago Land Association of 1854, in an interview recorded in 1922 and now edited for publication in the Fall number of Brown County's Heritage. To the same issue of the Brown County Historical Society's mimeographed quarterly, LeRoy G. Davis contributes a sketch of "The Ghost of Golden Gate," a village of the 1860s in Home Township.

REMINISCENCES of Roger and Ellen Butterfield Stubbs, long-time residents of the Orono area, have been published under the title Minnesota Memories 1887-1917 (1959. 54 p.). In their rambling narrative, the authors recall and describe their lives in the Lake Minnetonka region, mentioning the Lafayette Hotel, a furniture factory at Minnetonka Mills, and the farmers' market at Minneapolis. The booklet is illustrated largely with photographs of members of the Stubbs and Butterfield families.

FORMER STUDENTS and faculty members of an early Minnesota denominational school contribute seventeen short chapters to a little book entitled In Retrospect: A History of the Lutheran Normal School, Madison, Minnesota, 1892-1932 (1958, 253 p.), which has been issued under the editorship of Herman O. Hendrikson. Although it was founded "primarily for the training of teachers," the school closed its normal department in 1926 and continued only as a high school until 1932.

NEW items of information about "the burial site of one of Minnesota's most colorful fur traders, William A. Aitkin, who died near Little Falls in 1861," as well as about his life and his last trading post, are set forth by William P. Ingersoll and Evan A. Hart in the Little Falls Transcript for July 11. How they located both the trader's burial place and the site of the "forgotten village" of Aitkinville near Little Falls in Morrison County is explained by the writers. Both the community, which also was known as Swan River, and the post occupied by Aitkin for several years before his death are located on a map drafted by Mr. Ingersoll. Illustrating the narrative also is a sketch of the post prepared by Mr. Hart.

A RECORD of "Twenty Hibernal Apple Crops at Duluth" is presented by Mark J. Thompson in the Minnesota Horticulturist for September. The author discusses a "now obsolete" variety which "would produce cooking apples in generous quantity and survived very severe winters." He notes that the Hibernal was one of the three hundred varieties imported from Russia in 1870. Professor Thompson's special interest is an orchard set out at Duluth in 1913, which included more than a hundred Hibernals. He reports that they did not bear heavily until 1933, and he presents records of the yield from that year until 1952, when the "orchard was decommissioned."

A SURVEY of "Pioneer Physicians of Stevens County," the first installment of which appears in Minnesota Medicine for October, is the latest addition to that periodical's "History of Medicine in Minnesota." Four authors — Josephine Eddy, Grace Hall, Dr. A. L. Arneson of Morris, and Dr. Robert Rosenthal of St. Paul — contribute to the narrative, which is based largely on county newspapers and local historical sources, including some "drug store files." Presented in the opening chapter are sketches of eight pioneer physicians who practiced in the county.

THE Winona County Historical Society has published an illustrated booklet about its Winona Steamboat Museum (32 p.), formerly known as the "James P. Pearson" and recently given the name of "Julius C. Wilkie" in honor of the man whose family has done much to finance the project. Featured is an address on "Julius C. Wilkie and the Mississippi River" delivered by Leighton Wilkie at Winona on August 30, when the museum was officially dedicated. Included also are articles on "The Inland Waterways" by Michael L. Wilkie, and on the four "specialized museums" of the Winona County society by Gordon R. Closway. Another account of the organization's museums and work is contributed by Don Spavin to the St. Paul Pioneer Press Pictorial Magazine for October 18.

NEWS OF THE SOCIETY

BY NOVEMBER 15, more than fifty contributors had honored the memory of the late Alex L. Janes, Sr., of St. Paul by adding almost five hundred dollars to the society's Memorial Fund. Mr. Janes, who was a member of the honorary council, died on October 21.

AMONG the books that received awards of merit from the American Association for State and Local History at its annual meeting in December 1959
Philadelphia from October 7 to 9 is Miss Heilborn's The Thirty-second State: A Pictorial History of Minnesota, published by the society in November, 1938. The entries were judged in eight categories from ten regions in the United States and Canada. Award winners are listed in the October issue of History News.

SEVERAL daguerreotypes from the society's collection are among those enlarged for a display of "America in Daguerreotypes" arranged by the George Eastman House of Rochester, New York, and now touring the country under its auspices. It was on view in the University Gallery of Northrop Auditorium from November 1 to 23. Local views included depict a Sioux encampment with tipis on the site of Bridge Square in Minneapolis and the gallery of Joel Whitney, pioneer St. Paul daguerreotypist.

THE PICTURE collection of the society is represented also in a traveling exhibition of the work of Seth Eastman arranged and circulated by the Smithsonian Institution of Washington, D.C. The show will open at the Science Museum in St. Paul on January 6, when Professor John Francis McDermott of Washington University, St. Louis, will speak on Eastman and his art.

THE SOCIETY'S extensive collection of Cass Gilbert Papers, acquired in large part in 1947, has now been fully catalogued, and is available to students of state and architectural history. The collection, which fills twenty-one boxes, five volumes, and eleven huge folders, covers the years 1889 to 1911. In addition to much of the correspondence from Gilbert's St. Paul office, it includes newspaper clippings, specifications, contracts, and drawings and plans of buildings designed by the famed architect and erected in widely separated areas, as well as those for the Minnesota Capitol. It is appropriate that the cataloguing of this important collection of manuscripts should be completed in the year that marks the centennial of Gilbert's birth. The architect was born at Zanesville, Ohio, on November 24, 1859, eight years before his parents settled in St. Paul.

THE PAPERS of Judge William Lochren, presented in October by Mr. Charles L. Horn of Minneapolis, comprise one of the important and extensive collections recently added to the society's manuscript resources. Consisting of fifty-six volumes and some seventy-five hundred pieces, they reflect the career of a pioneer Minnesotan who settled in 1856 at St. Anthony, where he practiced law, served with the First Minnesota in the Civil War, was a state senator, a state and later a United States district judge, and federal commissioner of pensions.

A MANUSCRIPT "Story of Planning St. Paul from the Beginnings to 1933" by George H. Herrold has been presented by the author. The work, which includes information on platting, planning boards and commissions and their members, highways running through the city, traffic control, housing codes, recreational facilities, and the like, is ready for use.

NOTICES calling attention to Mr. and Mrs. Harry D. Ayer's recent gift to the society (see above, p. 284) include an illustrated article by John M. Connolly in the St. Paul Pioneer Press Sunday Pictorial Magazine for October 25. Accompanying the account are pictures of Mr. and Mrs. Ayer with some of the Indian artifacts they have collected over a period of fifty years, a view of their trading post, and a map showing its location on Mille Lacs Lake. It will be recalled that through their generosity, the society has received an "extraordinary collection of rare Indian materials, a new building in which to display them, 10 1/2 acres of land along the lake and a trust fund sufficient to guarantee the perpetual operation and future expansion of a North American Indian museum." The gift of this property and museum collection received attention on a national scale in the August issue of History News, which notes that some of the Indian items are on display in the trading post while more permanent exhibits are being arranged in the new museum. The gift of an island in Mille Lacs Lake near the shore line of the property presented by the Ayers was announced recently by the society. Consisting of a tract three acres in extent and long known as Robbins Island, it was received from the Atlantic Elevator Company of Minneapolis.

THE DIRECTOR spoke on historic sites in Minnesota on September 22 before a meeting of the National Conference on State Parks at Asilomar Beach State Park, Pacific Grove, California. On October 8 he discussed plans for Minnesota's participation in the coming Civil War centennial at the annual meeting of the American Association for State and Local History in Philadelphia; and he chose "The Early Settlement of Iowa" as his topic in addressing a convocation at Grinnell College in Grinnell, Iowa, on October 17. Among other staff members who participated in recent programs outside the state was the field director, Mr. Grahn, who spoke on "Collecting and Processing Local Historical Data" before the annual meeting of the State Historical Society of Missouri at Columbia on September 26.