Some NEW BOOKS in Review...

The Idea of Continental Union: Agitation for the Annexation of Canada to the United States, 1849-1893. By DONALD F. WARNER. (Lexington, published for the Mississippi Valley Historical Association by the University of Kentucky Press, 1960. ix, 276 p. $5.00.)

Reviewed by W. L. Morton

STUDENTS of American-Canadian history who have followed Mr. Warner's published work will not be surprised at the high quality of this scholarly and definitive analysis of a major theme in American-Canadian relations. Canadian students especially are indebted to Mr. Warner, not only for his treatment of the subject of his book, but also for his detailed study of neglected areas of Canadian history, notably the annexation movements in Nova Scotia and Quebec after 1867 and in Ontario after 1887.

Mr. Warner makes two main points. One is that after 1812 annexation sentiment in the United States was always a minority and sectional sentiment. Americans generally were opposed or indifferent to the addition of Canada to the United States. This was, of course, as true as it is important; it explains, for example, why American money has rarely been available in Canadian elections. His second point is that annexation sentiment in Canada in the three periods he studies — 1849-50, 1867-71, and 1887-93 — was usually commercial and urban in origin, was directed to economic rather than political goals, and usually ended with the return of prosperity. This is just, as is his corollary that provincial and sectional politicians in Canada down to quite recent times have not scrupled to use the annexation cry to extort concessions from Ottawa.

So far the present reviewer follows Mr. Warner gratefully. In two matters of interpretation some dissent must be expressed. Mr. Warner seems to stress unduly the north-south connections between Canada and the United States. This was the error of the “continentalists” who held that political annexation was the inevitable destiny of Canada. Actually Canada was the outcome of the east-west system of the rivers of the north half of the continent; if it had not been, there would have been no need to be concerned with annexation, for there would have been nothing to annex. Second, Mr. Warner seems also to overstate the effect of annexation sentiment in Canada on the British grant of self-government and British support for Confederation. It was certainly important in the second, but the commercial revolution of 1846 and the British desire to set the Dominion up on its own in order to diminish the possibility that it might embroil England with the United States were probably of greater weight. In a similar judgment that the annexation movements help to explain Canada's evolution in self-government, Mr. Warner strikes a juster balance.

Few errors mar the finished scholarship, urbane tone, and temperate judgment of the book. Two of the bétes noirs of Canadian historians appear: “Wilfred” for “Wilfrid” Laurier and “Aitkins” for “Aikins.” The documentation is comprehensive; only the Cooke Papers in the Historical Society of Pennsylvania collection seem to have eluded Mr. Warner's patient industry.

CIVIL WAR CONSERVATIVES


Reviewed by Kenneth Carley

THE AUTHOR of this valuable study reminds us at the outset that historians of our generation have realistically reassessed practically every major Civil War subject except the Copperhead story, which “remains quite the same.” He adds rather rhetorically that “those critics of the

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Lincoln administration are still viewed as men whose hearts were black, whose blood was yellow, and whose minds were blank. It has remained a favorite practice to collect Copperhead quotations and to hang them on the line of treason."

Mr. Klement, who is professor of history at Marquette University, has tapped many unused and little-used sources to re-examine the Copperhead movement in the Middle West. He holds that uncritical acceptance of Republican propaganda of Civil War days has led most historians to label Copperheads disloyal and pro-Confederate. Actually, he shows, much of what is commonly called Copperheadism was merely Democratic political partisanship, albeit rabid and vituperative. Mr. Klement recounts the early war battles, marked by questionable practices on both sides, between Copperhead legislatures and Republican governors in Illinois and Indiana.

The author goes to considerable pains to point out that Copperheads were conservatives who resisted change. He shows that ingredients of Copperheadism in the Midwest included agrarian discontent, anti-railroad sentiment, Western sectionalism, religious prejudice, and Negrophobia.

Famous Copperhead editors like Marcus Mills "Brick" Pomeroy of the La Crosse [Wisconsin] Democrat, Wilbur F. Storey of the Chicago Times, and Charles H. Lanphier of the Springfield Illinois State Register were comparatively mild critics of the administration until Lincoln issued the Emancipation Proclamation. Then they stepped up their opposition and took to fanatical name-calling. Most caustic and bitter of Lincoln's newspaper critics, Mr. Klement says, was Samuel Medary, founder of the Columbus [Ohio] Crisis and former governor of Minnesota Territory. Among the papers the author quotes from is the Chatfield Democrat.

Mr. Klement traces the rise and fall of Midwest Copperheadism, noting that its heyday was in the spring of 1863 before the Gettysburg and Vicksburg campaigns. Union victories there and elsewhere contributed to the Copperheads' downfall. So did Lincoln's astute leadership and the defeat of the most famous Copperhead of all, Clement L. Vallandigham, in the Ohio gubernatorial election of October, 1863. Republican victories in the elections of 1864 added the final nails to the Copperhead coffin.

The author has performed an important service in pointing up distortions in commonly held beliefs regarding Midwest Copperheadism; among other things, he is convincing in discounting contemporary Republican claims that such secret societies as the Knights of the Golden Circle and the Sons of Liberty were hotbeds of Copperhead treason. Too often, however, Mr. Klement has limited himself to the Copperhead side of the story. The tone of his book suggests that in many instances he should have shown more awareness of the difficulties that Copperhead recalcitrance brought to the nation when it was fighting for its life at a time of great crisis.

ORGANIZED LABOR

American Labor. By Henry Pelling. (Chicago, University of Chicago Press, 1960. vi, 247 p. $5.00.)

Reviewed by George B. Engberg

ONCE AGAIN Americans are in debt to an English scholar for a detached, yet friendly and factual, approach to a major area of our national life. Mr. Pelling, a fellow of Queen's College, Oxford, has written this history of American labor as one of the topical volumes in the Chicago History of American Civilization series.

The early chapters deal with the colonial period, the feeble beginnings of labor organization in the decades following independence, the Utopian and communitarian movements, and slavery. Here, as elsewhere, the interaction between white and colored labor is dealt with more satisfactorily than has usually been done. The rise and fall of the Knights of Labor, the early decades of the American Federation of Labor, and the maneuverings of the Socialist groups bring the book to its mid-point as the Industrial Workers of the World are briefly and carefully described.

The second half of the volume emphasizes the extent to which developments during World
War I were a prelude to the New Deal, explains why wage earners usually vote Democratic, and points out that during the 1920s organized labor did not make the progress that labor usually experiences during periods of prosperity. The story of labor during the New Deal is so well told that one wishes it were longer. Careful explanation is made of both the split and reunion of AFL and CIO, followed by a thoughtful analysis of the position of American labor in the late 1950s and a discussion of the 1959 Labor-Management Act, which the author believes should be known as “Hoffa’s Act.”

Mr. Pelling’s knowledge of British labor affairs enables him to make significant and helpful comparisons between American and English developments. He also gives considerable attention to the heterogeneous racial and national backgrounds of American workers in relation to the lack of class consciousness and the difficulty of establishing strong unions. His unfamiliarity with the American scene occasionally leads to minor slips, such as in considering greenback currency, the effect of federalism, and Supreme Court decisions. The final chapter, which calls labor “The Permanent Minority,” gives comfort to those who have feared a monolithic labor movement, but also points to tasks which labor has yet to accomplish.

MYTHICAL EXPLORER


Reviewed by Grace Lee Nute

MANY PERSONS will be shocked to learn from this book what scholars of the French regime have suspected for some time — namely, that Jacques Marquette’s participation in the Mississippi exploring expedition of 1673-74 is open to serious question. Father Steck announced his doubts in 1927 in his doctoral dissertation, which was published in 1928, and since that time he has published much additional material in essays on the subject. In 1953 he gathered up and published most of these privately in two volumes of Essays Relating to the Jolliet-Marquette Expedition.

These volumes were difficult to read, repetitious, and quite above the heads of most readers, especially those unacquainted with Latin and French. Now with the editorial help of Father August Reyling, Father Steck has summarized everything he has found and written about Marquette, and has published it in this small and attractive volume.

Briefly, the Marquette story is as follows, according to Father Steck. Marquette was not a priest, having failed to complete the requisite studies for the priesthood in France before going to New France as a Jesuit missionary in 1667 at the age of thirty. For the next six years he served at various posts, including missions on or close to Lake Superior. With 1673 the questionable part of his career begins. He was never appointed by anyone in authority in civil affairs in New or Old France to accompany Louis Jolliet on an expedition planned definitely to take New France out of the category of a mission field and make it a royal colony — a plan much opposed by the Jesuits. His presence on the Mississippi trip is not mentioned anywhere by Jolliet, the leader of the expedition, in the few authentic surviving records from the pen of the latter, whose original records were all lost just before he reached Montreal on the return trip, when his canoe upset. Contemporary accounts of the expedition are strangely silent about Marquette’s part in it, the only references being by Marquette’s superior, Father Dablon, in an edited account of a conference with Jolliet, and in documents based on that account. All the other so-called original accounts of the trip are frauds perpetrated by Dablon and certain other Jesuits, who wanted to enhance the reputation of their order through claiming for Marquette, after his death in 1675, what he never claimed for himself.

The fraudulent accounts and other documents are analyzed by Father Steck; and, by means of meticulous exegesis of scores of manuscripts and books, are shown up for what they truly are. The author reveals that Dablon was the chief perpetrator of fabrications, and that about 1840 another Jesuit, Father Felix Martin, carried on the work of altering records and putting out documents that claimed to be Marquettesiana.

The whole story of efforts to make Marquette the author of spurious narratives, diaries, baptismal entries, and the like, is quite shocking, and worthy of the best (or worst) cloak and

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dagger literature. Many of the same men whose machinations I recount in the 1670s and 1680s in my _Caesars of the Wilderness_ reappear here, though Father Steck seems to know nothing of my disclosures. When the whole story of the struggle between church and state in France between 1660 and 1685 shall have been told—as reflected in the Jesuits versus the Recollects, the Jesuits versus Frontenac, and the Jesuits versus La Salle—several other hoary myths will be dissipated, along with this one making Marquette a hero-discoverer of the Jolliet type.

**AMERICANS FROM FINLAND**

_Finnish Immigrants in America, 1880–1920._ By A. WILLIAM HOGLUND. (Madison, The University of Wisconsin Press, 1960. vi, 213 p. Illustrations, maps. $5.00.)

Reviewed by Carlton C. Qualey

IT IS a pleasure to welcome to the ranks of historians of American immigration another bilingual scholar who has had the good sense to utilize knowledge of his ancestral language. Thanks are due to Professor Merle Curti, who encouraged Dr. Hoglund to use his special gift for a doctoral dissertation at the University of Wisconsin. Would that more bilingual scholars could be recruited for the field of immigration history!

This volume is not a general history of Finnish immigration to the United States, but in the course of the author’s study of the associational life of the Finnish immigrants, he gives a general impression of the migration of the Finns. The first chapter is perhaps overgeneralized in its attempt to sketch the background in rural Finland out of which over three hundred thousand Finnish emigrants came to the New World by World War I. A major role is assigned to the multifaceted “Finnish awakening,” which “led to the breakdown of the isolated, self-contained rural household,” and sent thousands of families and individuals both to the industrial towns of Finland and to America.

The new folkways developed in the transition from Finland to America are the subject of one of the most readable chapters of the book. The major theme of the volume follows in Chapter 3, which deals with the “Associative Spirit”—a study of organizations, religious, temperance, socialist, labor, fraternal, literary, and educational. A unique feature of Finnish immigration was the active promotion of co-operatives and of socialist-oriented labor organizations. These economic aspects are described in a chapter somewhat cryptically entitled “Bread.” The same curious chapter titling occurs in one on “Love,” dealing with the emancipation of women and the transition from Finnish to American modes of courtship and marriage. A chapter called “State” relates to naturalization and political activities, in which the left-wing minority dramatically out-colored the Republican majority. In another strangely captioned chapter, “Fate,” the author deals with ethnic self-consciousness and the gradual loss of the sense of cultural separateness. The volume concludes with a general view of Finnish America as of 1920. Included in the work are innumerable references to Minnesota Finnish communities and personalities.

The book contains forty-five pages of footnotes, a bibliography, and a good index. Apparently the author failed to use the rich manuscript census schedules, available at the time of the writing of this book through 1900. Apart from this omission, the sources seem to have been thoroughly explored. It is good to have this valuable addition to the literature of the history of American immigration.

**LITERARY CHRONICLER**

_Hamlin Garland: A Biography._ By JEAN HOLLOWAY. (Austin, University of Texas Press, 1960. xii, 346 p. Illustrations. $6.00.)

Reviewed by John T. Flanagan

ALTHOUGH Hamlin Garland died in 1940, Jean Holloway’s biography is the first attempt to survey his life as a whole. Using the Garland Papers in the library of the University of Southern California, family correspondence, and the mass of random and unindexed information contained in Garland’s own literary miscellanies, Mrs. Holloway has reconstructed the author’s literary life from his arrival in Boston in 1884, seeking education and culture, to his death in

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Mr. Flanagan is professor of American literature in the University of Illinois at Urbana.
Los Angeles. The chronicle is carefully documented and clearly written. Mrs. Holloway has marshaled an extraordinary number of facts in orderly array and with a minimum of error (a few proper names, such as Opie Read, Charles T. Yerkes, and Cyril Clemens are misspelled, and Glenn Frank's name is transposed). Garland's early literary endeavors, his contacts with editors and publishers, and his intimacy with such writers as Stephen Crane, W. D. Howells, and Henry B. Fuller are fully described. Mrs. Holloway's picture of Garland as a literary man is surely definitive.

Yet one could wish for more personal glimpses and also for an objective evaluation of Garland's achievements. Curiously enough we meet him for the first time as a young man of twenty-four back-trailing from his homestead on the Dakota prairie. Mrs. Holloway dispenses almost entirely with an account of his background, his early years, his schooling in rural Wisconsin and Iowa. Only in Chapter 5, by way of Prairie Folks and Garland's desire to re-establish a home in Wisconsin for his aging parents, do we come face to face with the stalwart Garland-McClintock clan who figure so memorably in A Son of the Middle Border. Indeed the reader eager for an account of Garland's formative years must infer the record from Mrs. Holloway's somewhat meager discussion of the early fiction — Main-Travelled Roads, Jason Edwards, Rose of Dutcher's Coolly. As partial compensation, the author gives a useful discussion of the fiction of Garland's later period — the novels like Cavanaugh and the Captain of the Gray Horse Troop, which deal with the high country of the West. She also covers adequately Garland's addiction to spiritualism. The final chapters are largely an orderly resume of Garland's four volumes of chaotic but occasionally vivid literary reminiscences, oftentimes illuminated by quotations from the correspondence in which he engaged so voluminously.

The book on the whole is interesting and informative. Perhaps Mrs. Holloway's failure to provide an adequate final evaluation stems from her conviction that Garland was more appealing as a person than as a writer and that the bulk of his work was undistinguished journalism or conventional fiction. Only in the 1890s, when his head was full of grim memories and agrarian discontent, and again in the second decade of the twentieth century, when he returned to the chronicle of his own family, did Garland produce really memorable work.

**SOFT MONEY**


Reviewed by Rhoda R. Gilman

MONETARY policy and the political lines which formed around it in the years from 1862 to 1869 are the subject of this study. These were the years which saw the creation of United States notes or greenbacks as a wartime necessity, the reorganization of the country's banking system under the National Banking Acts, and the beginnings of the monetary debate which was to dominate the agrarian revolt of later decades.

The author takes issue with Charles A. Beard's concept of the "Second American Revolution" by pointing out that in establishing dominance over American society the capitalist classes were split by conflicting interests. He shows that the Republican "party of industrial progress and sound money" was in fact sharply divided on monetary questions of the 1860s, since most industrialists preferred mild inflation to sound money. Such outstanding Republican "radicals" as Thaddeus Stevens, Benjamin F. Wade, and Benjamin F. Butler were ardent soft-money men. Not until 1869, with the passage of the Public Credit Act, was their leadership supplanted by that of men like James A. Garfield, James G. Blaine, and Elihu B. Washburne, representing the new generation of hard-money Republicans supported by banking interests and the Grant administration.

Of particular interest to Minnesota readers is the record in the 1860s of Minnesota Congressman Ignatius Donnelly, who later became the state's most vocal exponent of greenbacks. Though after 1866 he stood consistently with Thaddeus Stevens and other soft-money radicals, Mr. Sharkey feels that Donnelly's "opinions were too erratic to deserve much consideration."

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TRANSPORTATION DECLINE

The Electric Interurban Railways in America.
By GEORGE W. HILTON and JOHN F. DUE.
(Stanford, California, Stanford University Press, 1960. ix, 463 p. Illustrations. $9.50.)

Reviewed by Frank P. Donovan, Jr.

THIS monumental work is the only book of its kind on the subject. A small library could be built on the many volumes and booklets concerning varied aspects of electric railways, but no book has heretofore covered the whole field.

The work is basically an economic history of an all but defunct industry. There are also chapters covering general engineering details of equipment and rolling stock, and of federal, state, and local regulation. Nearly half of the study is devoted to very readable capsule histories of individual interurban lines, including those of Canada.

What is an interurban? The authors find themselves on thin ice in defining the interurban in contrast to the street railway. Often the two overlap, or the former is an outgrowth of the latter. One feels that neither is defined satisfactorily; no two authorities would necessarily reach the same conclusion. The authors loosely define an interurban as one operated by electricity with primary emphasis on passenger service by cars heavier and faster than city streetcars, and once outside congested areas, operating at the side of a highway or on a private right-of-way. In spite of this liberal definition, they have omitted quite a few lines (especially in Pennsylvania) which should be classed as interurbans, and have included others which are not in that category.

The economic role of the interurban, however, is very ably presented. Considerable space is given to the network of lines in Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois — states where the high-speed electric line had its greatest growth. New York, Pennsylvania, Iowa, and California also had a significant share of interurban development.

The intercity electric lines filled the tenuous gap between the services performed by steam railroads and highway vehicles. So long as the trolley had to compete with the train and the horse-drawn vehicle the pickings were relatively good. But as the internal combustion engine came to the fore, the interurban waned. Decline set in shortly after World War I as a result of the phenomenal growth of the automobile. The depression decimated what interurbans were left, and after World War II the industry was virtually wiped off the face of America. Carload freight, not passengers, has kept the score so far of remaining interurbans running. Indeed, most of the roads in Iowa are still operating as de-electrified, freight-only, short lines.

Throughout the text there is an astonishing amount of miscellaneous information covering all conceivable phases of an industry which once grossed nearly thirteen million dollars. How many historians know, for example, that President Theodore Roosevelt nearly lost his life when an interurban car struck his landau in western Massachusetts? He was thrown to the ground in the collision, but was not badly hurt, although a secret service man riding with him was killed. Speaking of schedules, it is pointed out that although most interurbans ceased operation late at night, one New Jersey line had a strange owl run. It featured a 3:00 A.M. departure from Bridgetown to Bivalve to accommodate oystermen who wanted to be on their boats by dawn.

Twin City readers will be interested in knowing that one of the earliest uses of the term "interurban" was applied to the pioneer trolley line connecting Minneapolis with St. Paul. The work includes a two-page thumbnail history of interurban and semi-interurban lines in Minnesota.

Scholars will rejoice in the detailed and copious bibliography and the full index, along with graphs and maps. The spirit of the interurban is pictorially recorded in a sixteen-page section of nostalgic photographs of typical electric cars.

NORTH STAR POLITICS

Politics in Minnesota. By G. THEODORE MITAU.
(Minneapolis, University of Minnesota Press, 1960. 140 p. Charts, maps. $1.95.)

Reviewed by Carl H. Chrislock

THE practice of politics in every part of the United States is in some sense unique. This being so, teachers, scholars, political leaders, and general readers welcome the appearance of

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books such as this. And when performance is at the level achieved by Professor Mitau, the welcome becomes all the more cordial.

Politics in Minnesota has four basic chapters. The first sketches the high points of Minnesota's political history; the second describes election law and party organization; the third deals with the state's "nonpartisan partisan legislature"; and the fourth discusses lobbying before the legislature. Two additional sections contribute to the value of the book. One titled "Supplementary Materials" consists of biographical data and election statistics; the other is a bibliography.

This is a book of many virtues. The state's political history is competently summarized; obviously no important work dealing with this subject has been overlooked. Nor does the author's sense of history desert him with the completion of the first — the historical — chapter. On the contrary, a keen appreciation of the historical setting stays with him throughout. Contemporary issues in state politics, too, are defined and discussed with clarity and objectivity. Another difficult task is also undertaken and performed with tact and skill — the hazardous one of evaluating the careers of living men still in active political life. Finally, the book is entirely readable. In the "Foreword," Professor William Anderson aptly characterizes the style as "necessarily compact ... but at the same time ... clear, flexible, and interesting."

No public or private library in Minnesota should be without this book.

DISAPPEARING FORESTS


Reviewed by George T. Morgan

IN NO SENSE a definitive study, this effectively illustrated booklet is ensured a place in forest historiography through the author's evident command of the subject. The work is written in a direct and straightforward style, and it shows faithful adherence to the essentials of an industry's regional history, without undue digression into the realm of value judgments.

This is not to imply that Mr. Maybee is insensitive to the thoughtless devastation of Michigan's once vast pineries, but rather to pay tribute to his literary skill. An account of a Saturday night party in an early logging camp launches the work in a light vein, and the ribald songs of a bygone age, such as "Louis Sands and Jim McGee" and "My Darling Old Stags," rendered by a soon-to-vanish breed of men, plus stirring recitations of "Old Pete Bateese" and "Ze Skunk," lull the reader into a lingering romantic and sentimental mood. Skillfully woven into the romance of a picturesque era, however, is the tragic destruction and slaughter of over a hundred and sixty billion board feet of timber which required from one to three hundred years to grow — and only half a century to cut.

As the reader relives the halcyon development and demise of Michigan's logging and lumbering industries, he is impelled to accept the author's implicit suggestion that rapid exploitation was an integral and perhaps inescapable consequence of a youthful, virile, and expanding economy which turns to reforestation only when the wisdom accompanying maturity is attained.

WESTERN RED MEN


Reviewed by Alan R. Woolworth

YOUTHS of all ages will hail with delight this book, which is the first volume in the American Heritage Junior Library series. The work is well bound and designed, and it is lavishly illustrated. The plates, including many in color, are especially well chosen and reproduced; hardly

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MR. WOOLWORTH is curator of the Minnesota Historical Society's museum.
The influence of John C. Ewers of the Smithsonian Institution, who is familiar to every student of the Plains Indians, is evident throughout the book. The text is simple; a twelve-year-old should be able to read it without difficulty, though adults too will read it with pleasure. Chapter headings are short and at the same time eye-catching.

The first chapter, which is entitled "The Trackless Land," contains a brief account of Coronado's search for the mythical Quivira—a search that ended in failure on the parched Kansas plains. Other chapters deal with such subjects as "Red Men on Horseback," "Indian Cattle," or buffaloes, "The Coming of the White Man," "Massacre in Minnesota," "Custer's Last Stand," and "Men and Myths." The last explodes some popular myths concerning the Indians. Picture credits, a bibliography, and an index complete the work.

Some minor errors mar the book. For example, Fort Ridgely is located on the site of Fort Ripley on a map on page 101, and James McLaughlin, the well-known Indian agent, is called "William" on page 137.

The pictorial presentation and lucid description of Plains Indian life over about three centuries presented in this work for adolescents are heartily recommended as well to all non-specialists interested in the Indians and their history. It will probably attract plenty of parents and other relatives of youngsters at Christmas time, many of whom probably will read it themselves before using it as a gift.

... on the HISTORICAL HORIZON

ESSAYS by the Reverend Colman J. Barry of St. John's University, Collegeville, and Monsignor James P. Shannon of the College of St. Thomas, St. Paul, are included in a recent work on Roman Catholicism and the American Way of Life, edited by Thomas T. McAvoy and published by the University of Notre Dame Press (1960. 248 p. $4.50.). The Minnesotans' contributions appear in Part 2 of the work, which is devoted to "Immigration and American Catholicism," Father Colman deals with "The German Catholic Immigrant," touching upon the Cahensly movement and Archbishop John Ireland's opposition to it. "The Irish Catholic Immigration" is the subject of Father Shannon's contribution, in which some Minnesota examples are cited. Other nationality groups considered from the Catholic point of view include the Latin-Americans, the Italians, and the Poles. Most of the essays in the volume were prepared for presentation at two symposia held at Notre Dame.

FIRST among fourteen "children of the moment" around whose lives Louise Tanner builds the theme of Here Today . . . (New York, 1959. 311 p.) are F. Scott Fitzgerald and Charles A. Lindbergh. Along with such diverse personalities as Edna St. Vincent Millay, Whitaker Chambers, and Barbara Hutton, the author sees them as realizing in their careers the impermanence of ideas, attitudes, and values in the "years between Versailles and Pannunjon." Raised for a brief period to dizzying eminence, they were . . . dated before anybody knew what hit them." Each was associated with a particular national mood and set of social conditions. For Fitzgerald it was "the Jazz Age with its underlay of hick-town hope"; for Lindbergh, "faith in the promises of science, in the isolationism that became obsolete in the world he helped to shrink."

THE OPENING chapters of Dr. Paul B. Magnuson's Ring the Night Bell: The Autobiography of a Surgeon (Boston, Little, Brown and Company, 1960. 376 p. $5.00.) have their setting in St. Paul, where the writer was born and received his early schooling. The family home in Merriam Park and the area about the Minnesota State Fair grounds in the closing decades of the nineteenth century figure prominently in the recollections of this Minnesota native who became a distinguished surgeon. There are comments, too, about medical training at the University of Minnesota in the early years of the present century. Among the more dramatic features of the book is Dr. Magnuson's account of his bout with bureaucracy while serving as head of the Veterans Administration medical service from 1945 to 1950.

"RECENT Writings on Midwestern Economic History" are surveyed by Harry R. Stevens in

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the Ohio Historical Quarterly for January. Under the headings of “Land,” “Agriculture,” “Pastoral Economy,” “Primary Industries,” “Transportation and Commerce,” and “Industry, Business, and Finance,” the author lists and evaluates much of the work done in this field during the past two decades. Such Minnesota authors as Merrill E. Jarchow and Agnes M. Larson receive prominent mention, as does Walker D. Wyman of Wisconsin.

COLLECTORS and museum directors will find a wealth of useful information in Arthur G. Peterson’s book on Salt and Salt Shakers: Hobbies for Young and Old, recently published by the Washington College Press (Washington, D.C., 1960. $5.00.). Among the subjects reviewed in the text are the history of salt, the “Evolution of Preparing Salt for Use in Salt Shakers,” the numerous patents pertaining to salt shakers, and the many mechanical devices used in them. One chapter is devoted to “Condiments and Their Containers,” including sugar bowls, syrup pitchers, and honey jars. Perhaps most useful are the “Pictures of 550 Glass Salt Shakers” which have been arranged in alphabetical order to facilitate a quick reference by dealers and collectors.” Furthermore, it is supplemented by an alphabetically arranged “List of 830 Salt Shakers in Pattern and Art Glass.” According to Mr. Peterson, he purchased many of the items pictured in his book in Minnesota.

SOME “NOTES from a Travel Diary” kept by Hans Mattson in the early winter of 1868, when he went to Sweden as Minnesota commissioner of emigration, are quoted in an article by Lars-Olov Ljungmark in the Swedish Pioneer Historical Quarterly for July. Mattson’s remarks, writes Mr. Ljungmark, were recorded in a “little Black note book, bound in oil cloth, on deposit in the manuscript collection of the Minnesota Historical Society.” The extracts here quoted relate for the most part to his return to his home community in Sweden after an absence of eighteen years. The article is a by-product of Mr. Ljungmark’s study of Mattson, which is expected to result in a biography of the Minnesotan.

THE ROLE of Nathaniel P. Langford of St. Paul in the exploration of the Yellowstone area and its preservation as a national park is described by Weldon F. Heald in an article on “The Yellowstone Story: Genesis of the National Park Idea,” which appears in the Utah Historical Quarterly for April. The writer notes that with the creation of Yellowstone National Park by Congress in 1872 “one of America’s most successful ventures in co-operative democracy” was launched, as the proposition was firmly established for the first time “that the federal government has the responsibility of protecting the finest examples of American scenery in a natural state for the benefit and enjoyment of all the people.” Mr. Heald records that Langford was among those who drew up the bill that made Yellowstone a park, and that he was named its first superintendent.

EARLY EFFORTS to inaugurate agricultural education in Wisconsin are described by Vernon Carstensen in an article on “The Genesis of an Agricultural Experiment Station,” in the January issue of Agricultural History. The author makes the point that Wisconsin had an actively functioning agricultural experiment station some years before the passage, in 1887, of the Hatch Act, which made federal assistance available. As a result of pressure upon the university and the state government by agricultural organizations, writes Mr. Carstensen, “in 1883, when the farm committee of the Board of Regents met to mark out the future course of the station, the principal ingredients for success were already present.”

“THE BUFFALO are making a tardy bid to reclaim some of their old territory” in the Slave River area of Canada, according to Ralph Hedlin, who writes of “The Buffalo as a Northern Resource” in the Summer issue of The Beaver. From the historical standpoint, the writer tells how the completion of the Union Pacific Railway in 1869 “split the buffalo into the northern and the southern herds,” both of which were soon almost wiped out by the hide hunters. With protection, the remaining remnant of a few hundred animals has grown to a herd of some seventeen thousand animals. Now licensed sportsmen are allowed to hunt buffalo under certain conditions, and the “buffalo has again become a valuable — if limited — Canadian resource.”

THE MINNESOTA route to Fort Garry and Rupert’s Land figures in J. W. Chalmers’ account of the “prodigious journeys in the later life of Sir George Simpson and the men who tried to keep up with him,” which appears in the Spring issue of Montana: The Magazine of Western History. Under the title “They Travelled with the Governor,” Mr. Chalmers describes the adventures of men like Paul Kane, the Canadian artist, Frederick Ulrich Graham, a young British nobleman, and the Earl of Southesk while making their way into the West with Sir George. The earl and the aging governor made their trip in 1859, according to the
writer, traveling from Detroit "across the northern United States 'by the steam cars' to St. Paul." Obviously, this was impossible, since the Minnesota city did not acquire rail connections with points east until 1867. In the Winter number of the same magazine, John E. Parsons writes about "Steamboats in the 'Idaho' Gold Rush," including some small, shallow-draft vessels built in Minnesota.

**THE MINNESOTA SCENE**

TO SUPPLEMENT his study of Politics in Minnesota, which is reviewed elsewhere in this issue, Professor G. Theodore Mitau has published a Selected Bibliography of Minnesota Government, Politics and Public Finance Since 1890 (St. Paul, 1960. 94 p.). Entries are grouped under state government and its various branches, local government, intergovernmental relations, public finance and taxation, and "Related Materials." Among the latter are many items of primary historical interest, such as William W. Folwell's History of Minnesota, John D. Hicks' Populist Revolt, and the papers of such Minnesota political figures as Ignatius Donnelly and Frank B. Kellogg. The bibliography may be purchased from the Minnesota Historical Society for $1.50.

THE COMMEMORATION at Sauk Centre and at other points in the state of "Sinclair Lewis Main Street Year," in accordance with a proclamation of the Governor, has drawn attention nationally to the seventy-fifth anniversary of the novelist's birth and events in his career that are being marked in 1960 (see above, p. 40, 87). Among the articles that call special attention to the fortieth anniversary of the publication of Main Street is one by Grace Hegger Lewis in the New York Times Magazine for July 3. Under the title "When Lewis Walked Down Main Street," his first wife recalls a visit to Sauk Centre in May, 1916, when she was introduced to her young husband's family and his home town. Illustrating the account are snapshots of places and people that Mrs. Lewis took during the visit. The Library of Congress has marked the anniversaries in an exhibit which was on view in the foyer of its rare book division throughout the summer.

THE NINETY-TH anniversary issue of the Journal Lancet, published in May, features a survey of its "First Ninety Years" by Dr. J. Arthur Myers, and includes surveys of progress in various fields of medicine since 1870. Of special Minnesota interest is an article on the "Law of Medical Practice Requirements in Minnesota" by Raymond Scallen. Included also is the first of a series of articles by James Eckman on the "Ghost Medical Journals of Minnesota." In the present contribution, the author discusses the Minnesota Homoeopath, the state's pioneer medical journal issued in 1859.

THE BEGINNINGS of the American-Swedish Institute of Minneapolis and the personality of its founder are described by Emil Berglund in the Winter-Spring issue of the institute's Bulletin. The author presents "An Intimate Account of the Founding" of the organization, which was created on March 30, 1929, and later that year received a gift from Swan J. Turnblad which included full ownership of the Svenska Amerikanska Posten, then one of the nation's leading Swedish-language newspapers, the three-story building which housed it, and the donor's palatial residence in Minneapolis.

ON JULY 10, the Polk County Historical Society opened a new museum with appropriate ceremonies. Located on the second floor of the old McKinley School in Crookston, the museum has been named for Dr. Halvor Holte, a pioneer physician of the area. Among those participating in the dedication program were Russell W. Fridley, director of the Minnesota Historical Society, and Arch Grahn, its field director. The museum quarters and some of the special exhibits are described in the June number of the Polk County Historian, official publication of this local society. The organization also has issued a booklet in which its president, Don Myrold, recounts The Fascinating Story of Ancient Lake Agassiz (8 p.).

**NEWS OF THE SOCIETY**

THE DEDICATION of the society's new State Indian Museum on Mille Lacs Lake took place on the grounds of the local Indian school on August 7. Participating in the program were Governor Orville L. Freeman, President O. Meredith Wilson of the University of Minnesota, Mr. Arthur Naftalin, state commissioner of administration, and Senator C. C. Mitchell of Princeton. The society's president, Mr. John de Laittre, presided. Some fifteen hundred people, including those who participated in the society's third summer tour of the 1960 season, attended the ceremonies. It has been estimated that more than four thousand visitors saw the exhibits on the opening day. A special preview on the morning of August 7 gave members of the society's executive council and staff an opportunity not only to see the new museum, but
to meet Mr. and Mrs. Harry D. Ayer, whose generosity made it possible.

THE FARM near Elk River once owned by Oliver H. Kelley, founder of the National Grange, was the scene of a special program arranged by the society on August 14. The speaker was Professor Gilbert C. Fite of the University of Oklahoma, who took as his subject "A Quarter Century of Political and Economic Frustration: American Farm Policy since 1935." Preceding this address, a picnic lunch was served on the grounds of Kelley's home, which has been restored for preservation by the National Grange. The house, built in 1867, served as headquarters for the Grange until 1870.

AS CHAIRMAN of the program committee of the American Association for State and Local History, Mr. Fridley arranged the program for its twentieth annual meeting, which was held in Iowa City from August 31 to September 3. He also participated in the program, speaking at a luncheon which followed the dedication on August 31 of the new Centennial Building of the State Historical Society of Iowa. The society was represented also by Miss Heilbron, who took part in a discussion of "The Historical Society Magazine — Does it Have a Future?", and by Miss Kane, who was a member of a panel on "Manuscript Collecting in the Twentieth Century: The Battle of the Bulk." Mr. Clark J. Pahlas of the Olmsted County Historical Society, Rochester, participated in a panel on "New Directions and Traditional Functions in Our Local Historical Societies."

MISS KANE is the author of a bulletin on the care and processing of manuscripts which will be published about October 1 by the American Association for State and Local History. Copies should be ordered from the association, which has its headquarters in Madison, Wisconsin.

THE EIGHTH in the series of annual teachers' institutes to be held under the society's auspices will open at 1:00 P.M. on October 6 with sessions in the auditorium of the State Office Building and the Weyerhaeuser Room of the Historical Building. The first will center about a coming centennial, with a discussion of "Teaching the Civil War and Sioux Uprising in the Schools." Among the speakers participating will be Walter N. Trenerry, a vice-president of the society, and Dean Melva Lind of Gustavus Adolphus College, St. Peter, a member of the society's executive council. Professor G. Theodore Mitau of Macalester College, St. Paul, will be the speaker for the second session, which has "Politics in Minnesota" as its theme. A coffee hour sponsored by the Women's Organization of the society, a tour of the building, and a dinner in the cafeteria of the State Highway Building will be other features of the institute.

THE APPOINTMENT of Dr. Theodore C. Blegen as research fellow in Minnesota history on the society's staff has been made possible through funds received from private sources. It carries with it a grant, extending over two years, for research and writing looking toward the publication of an up-to-date history of Minnesota. Dr. Blegen, who retired on July 1 as dean of the University of Minnesota graduate school, was associated with the society from 1922 to 1939, first as assistant superintendent and later as superintendent. He plans to begin his new project on November 1.

A GRANT of $2,000 has been received by the society from the Northern States Power Company to finance an archaeological survey of Prairie Island in the Mississippi River north of Red Wing. The work of excavation is being directed by Professor Elden Johnson of the University of Minnesota department of anthropology. His early findings, which include some major village sites, are described in the St. Paul Dispatch and the Minneapolis Tribune for July 13. The power company, which is planning to erect a generating plant on the island in about a decade, is interested in exploring archaeological remains in the area before construction begins.

A BEQUEST of $1,000 was received by the society under the will of the late Victor Lawson of Willmar, a member of the society's honorary council. From the estate of the late Mrs. Mabel O. Todd of Minneapolis, a life member of long standing, the society received $200.

THE SOCIETY figures prominently in Theodore C. Blegen's tribute to "Solon Justus Buck — Scholar-Administrator," which appears in the American Archivist for July. It was presented at the unveiling of Bjorn Egeli's portrait of Dr. Buck in the conference room of the National Archives on April 8. Dr. Blegen stresses the transformation of the society under Dr. Buck's guidance between 1914 and 1931 "from a skull-capped institution with a genteel genealogical fragrance into a modern, scientific historical society that took rank among the very best in the nation." Published in the same issue of the Archivist, is Ernst Posner's sketch of Dr. Buck's career as an archivist.