1917 • 100 Years Ago
The legislature appropriated twenty-five thousand dollars a year for the maintenance of the society during the biennium beginning August 1, 1917. This increase of five thousand dollars over the annual appropriations for the last ten years will barely cover the increased expenses due to the general rise in prices and will not permit any considerable expansion of the activities of the society. —Minnesota Historical Society Notes, Vol. 2, No. 2, May 1917, p. 277

1942 • 75 Years Ago
Another law passed in 1941 which affects the society is that creating a Historic Sites and Markers Commission. Under its provisions, a commission composed of the director of state parks, the commissioner of highways, and the superintendent of the Minnesota Historical Society, or their representatives, is entrusted with supervising the erection of markers on historic sites in Minnesota. —“The Minnesota Historical Society in 1941,” by Arthur J. Larsen, Vol. 23, No. 1, March 1942, p. 43

1967 • 50 Years Ago
The anthology which the Minnesota Historical Society produced in 1965 to commemorate Minnesota History’s fifty years of uninterrupted publication has received a good deal of favorable attention. The most noteworthy recognition came at the annual meeting of the American Association for State and Local History in October, 1966, when the Award of Merit was announced. . . . The twenty-six articles included in the anthology are representative of more than five hundred that have appeared in Minnesota History over the last half century. —“. . . On the Historical Horizon,” Spring 1967, Vol. 40, No. 5, p. 264

1992 • 25 Years Ago
At the Minnesota Historical Society interpretive center at the Lower Sioux Agency near our reservation, there is a twelve-minute tape that talks about the attitude of people a hundred and some years ago. A missionary named Stephen R. Riggs said that civilization should either surround the Indians with its mercy and goodness or sweep them from the face of the earth. And that is essentially what people tried to do. Because we didn’t change, they had the right to destroy us. People are working very hard at that still. —“Some Native Thoughts on the Quincentennial,” by David E. Larsen, Spring 1992, Vol. 53, No. 1, p. 26. [At the time of this writing, Larsen, an enrolled member of the Mdewakanton Dakota and lifelong resident of Lower Sioux, was a member of the Minnesota Historical Society’s Indian Advisory Committee.]
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