

REVIEWS OF BOOKS

A History of the Public Land Policies (Land Economics Series).

By BENJAMIN HORACE HIBBARD, PH.D., professor of agricultural economics in the University of Wisconsin and research associate in the Institute for Research in Land Economics and Public Utilities. (New York, The Macmillan Company, 1924. xix, 591 p. Maps, charts.)

The General Land Office: Its History, Activities and Organization (Institute for Government Research, *Service Monographs of the United States Government*, no. 13). By MILTON CONOVER. (Baltimore, The Johns Hopkins Press, 1923. xii, 224 p.)

The story of the public domain deals with events, personalities, and policies of such a long period and is so intricate (and yet so significant for a correct perspective in the study of American history) that it is not strange that historians hitherto have been content to treat a few chapters or a phase or two of it. Now, however, Mr. Hibbard has rendered the service of telling the story as a unit, from 1781 to 1924, in a clear, interesting fashion.

Although something of a chronological order is discernible in his arrangement of topics, the primary emphasis is laid upon the three distinct phases which have characterized the public land policies of the United States: land-selling for profit; disposal of land for national development; and conservation. With these general divisions outlined, he has sketched in, in their proper places, characteristic features of each, such as the credit system, military bounty lands, preëmption, claim associations, speculation, swamp-land grants, graduation, grants for educational purposes, and grants of timber, stone, grazing, mineral, and desert lands.

Despite his reliance on what seems to the reviewer a limited amount of source material and even of first-rate secondary material, the author has produced a book that will serve excellently the purposes of the general reader and of the college student. For bibliographical purposes, however, the reader is referred to Mr. Conover's volume, for Mr. Hibbard could derive much profit by

comparing his indefinite, unstandardized, uncritical, and incomplete bibliography with the very excellent list in the monograph on the general land office. Surely he must have known of Mr. George M. Stephenson's and Mr. Raynor G. Wellington's standard treatises, though neither is mentioned in his bibliography.

Of quite a different type, yet supplementing Mr. Hibbard's book, is *The General Land Office*. Its purpose is to give a comprehensive account of a government bureau, but in so doing it necessarily treats to some extent the policies formulated by the bureau. A history of the general land office precedes an account of its activities and a description of its organization. These three main divisions are followed by eight appendixes, giving statistical and technical data which will prove very useful for reference purposes.

The publication of this monograph is very timely for the purposes of the Minnesota Historical Society, which has recently acquired several tons of manuscript archives from the discontinued land offices at Duluth and Crookston. It is difficult for anyone not faced with the problem of arranging the papers of a highly organized government office to appreciate the service rendered by this monograph in such a simple way as explaining the use of letters of the alphabet as classification signs on different files of papers. Without a knowledge of their exact significance grave mistakes would almost certainly be made.

Since duplicates of similar manuscript records for every land office throughout the country are preserved in the general land office, it is curious that neither of the volumes under review has been based even slightly upon them nor recommends their use by referring to them in its bibliography. To be sure, Mr. Conover refers to them by inference, but even he, apparently, has not perceived their full value. Mr. Hibbard, for example, might have made extensive use of them in preparing his chapter on claim associations, if the records of the Minnesota offices are typical of those in other portions of the country. At any rate, both works should have informed the reader of the existence of voluminous correspondence, tract books, records of sale and preëmption, contest documents, and many other forms of records which tell in the utmost detail the transactions of every land office which has ever been established in the United States. They would also have done

well to have indicated that a calendar is being made for much of this data which relates to the territories and states of Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Iowa, Michigan, and Minnesota.

GRACE LEE NUTE

In Memoriam: Bellamy Storer, With Personal Remembrances of President McKinley, President Roosevelt and John Ireland, Archbishop of St. Paul. By MARIA LONGWORTH STORER. (Privately printed, 1923. 120 p.)

This little memorial volume consists largely of letters written to Mr. and Mrs. Bellamy Storer with a slight thread of narrative running through it to link up and explain the setting of the various documents. For Minnesotans, naturally, the greatest interest lies in the letters written by the late Archbishop Ireland, who was a close personal friend of both Mr. and Mrs. Storer; indeed, the greater part of the book is given up to material from and about the archbishop.

While the tone of the whole is distinctly personal, considerable light is thrown upon public men and public happenings: the purchase of the Friar lands in the Philippines; the election of 1904, and especially the possibility that Mark Hanna would be a candidate for the presidency; the attitude of men in public life — men like Elihu Root or William Howard Taft; and other affairs of more than personal significance which creep into the pages. In a way the theme of the latter two-thirds of the book, that part under the heading "John Ireland," is the campaign to secure the election of the archbishop to the cardinalate. Something of the efforts which were made not only by the Storers, but by President Roosevelt and others, comes out in the letters printed.

Interesting comments upon many happenings are found a plenty. In commenting upon the election in 1903 of a legislature favorable to Hanna's candidacy for the United States Senate, the Archbishop wrote, "I was able through my friends to help him there. His victory there is due to the Catholic vote, and he is fully aware of the fact. We turned over to him nearly the whole Slav vote." This and other passages show the tendency of factions, religious and other, to be active political agents. President Roosevelt and Secretary Taft were looked upon by Ireland

as distinctly sympathetic to the church and its work. Secretary Root, on the other hand, he "feared."

There is an interesting account of Roosevelt's anger at the failure of the consistory to elect the archbishop a cardinal. According to Mrs. Storer and the letters she prints, Roosevelt desired to have it understood that he had never used his influence to that end. One draws the inference—indeed it is something more than an inference—that the removal of Storer from his diplomatic post at Vienna was really caused by his and Mrs. Storer's refusal to publish a denial that the president had ever been actively interested in the matter.

No major contribution to the historical knowledge of the period is made by this little book; nevertheless it does contain not a few interesting revelations of a minor character.

LESTER B. SHIPPEE

South Dakota Historical Collections. Volume 12. Compiled by the State Department of History. (Pierre, Hipple Printing Company, 1924. 603 p. Illustrations.)

Nearly fifty separate items ranging in length from half a page to 125 pages make up this volume, which is one of a biennial series provided for by state law. Most of these items are addresses, papers, or notes by Doane Robinson, secretary of the state historical society and superintendent of the state department of history, which appear to be one and the same institution. Many of the addresses were delivered at local celebrations and are in the nature of sketches of local history; some, however, such as "Some Functions of a Historical Society," "Public Libraries and History," "The Value of History," and "The Pull of the Historic Place" are of more general interest. The most extensive of Mr. Robinson's articles are those on "Divorce in Dakota," and "A Century of Liquor Legislation in Dakota."

Other material in the volume includes "The Initiative and Referendum in South Dakota," by Burton E. Tiffany of the University of South Dakota; "Studies in the History of Public Education in South Dakota," by Walter W. Ludeman, a University of South Dakota master's thesis; "The Struggle of South Dakota to Become a State," by Carrol G. Green, a Columbia University

master's thesis; and "The Scandinavian Pioneers of South Dakota," by G. Bie Ravndal. The last item, which consists of a series of papers written for the *Argus-Leader* of Sioux Falls between 1906 and 1910, is somewhat broader in scope than the title would indicate and contains data about early Scandinavian settlers in various parts of the West, including Minnesota. The volume concludes with annual reviews of the progress of South Dakota in 1922 and in 1923.

SOLON J. BUCK

The Story of My Childhood, Written for My Children. By ALICE MENDENHALL GEORGE. (Whittier, California, 1923. 88 p. Illustrations.)

This little book is of the type of pioneer reminiscences of which we cannot have too many—and of which we have all too few. An unpretentious narrative of the experiences of the author's family as early settlers in Le Sueur and Blue Earth counties, it is rich in that valuable social history which, as Macaulay says, shows us "ordinary men, as they appear in their ordinary business and in their ordinary pleasure."

Take, for example, this paragraph: "I remember the Christmas of that year [1861] more vividly than any other of my childhood. Minnie and I each had a pink calico apron, a stick of striped candy, an apple, and a doll about seven inches long, with china head, hands, and feet. That was the first apple I ever saw and the doll was the first and only one I ever had." From similar vivid details, however trivial in themselves, the reader gets a real sense of the conditions of home life on the frontier such as he seldom gets from the more formal histories.

The writer dedicates the book to her parents and her grandchildren, and says in a foreword that she wrote it "thinking that my descendants might like to know something of the early days in Minnesota." The result is an intimate narrative, written in a pleasant and whimsical style. For instance, the author says of her mother, "There was not the least bit of humor in her make-up, and she never forgot to wind the clock or put out the cat."

The book is delightfully illustrated with photographic prints, most of them from old daguerreotypes or tintypes.

E. H. B.

MINNESOTA HISTORICAL SOCIETY NOTES

Copies of the index to volume 4 of the MINNESOTA HISTORY BULLETIN have been sent to all libraries which received the volume and to such members as indicated a desire to receive it. Copies will be sent to other members on request as long as the supply lasts.

The additions to the active membership during the quarter ending June 30, 1925, numbered 35, which brings the total to 1,400. A list of the names of the new members, grouped by counties follows.

CROW WING: Levi Johnson of Brainerd.

DAKOTA: Charles W. Clark of South St. Paul.

FILLMORE: Oliver W. Holmes of Rushford.

GOODHUE: Alexander P. Anderson and August H. Andresen of Red Wing.

HENNEPIN: Jean H. Alexander, Arthur W. Armatage, Hugh Arthur, John P. Devaney, Mary S. Gold, George F. T. Mayer, Lawrence D. Steefel, Mrs. David F. Swenson, George H. Warren, and Harvey R. Weesner, all of Minneapolis.

LINCOLN: Ernest A. Bailey of Hendricks.

MCLEOD: Franklin R. Allen of Glencoe.

RAMSEY: John A. Bohland, Peris A. Brett, Carl C. Chatterton, Clifford P. Fitch, Albert H. Harmon, J. Arthur Harris, Charles E. King, Charles J. Potts, Elvin C. Stakman, John J. Toomey, Charles E. Villaume, and Henry von der Weyer, all of St. Paul.

RICE: Lars W. Boe and Charles J. Ritchey of Northfield.

STEELE: Guel G. Morehouse of Owatonna.

WINONA: Burr D. Blair and Hugh Graham of Winona.

NONRESIDENT: Brigadier General Alfred W. Bjornstad of Fort Omaha, Nebraska.

The society lost ten active members by death during the quarter ending June 30, 1925: John J. Furlong of Austin, April 9; Dawes How of St. Paul, April 28; Cordenio A. Severance of St. Paul, May 6; John J. Watson of St. Paul, May 15; Samuel Appleton

of St. Paul, May 21; Walter S. Pardee of Minneapolis, May 24; the Reverend Henry D. Funk of St. Paul, June 2; Albert H. Lindeke of St. Paul, June 17; Edward H. Bromley of Minneapolis, June 21; William J. Dyer of St. Paul, June 21; and Clarence L. Atwood of St. Cloud, June 27. The death on March 26 of W. K. Coffin of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, an active member, should have been noted in the last number of the magazine.

The Carnegie Library of Crookston and the school library of Delano have recently become subscribers to the society's publications.

In the summer session of the University of Wisconsin, which opened on June 29, the superintendent of the society gave a lecture course on the West in American history and a seminar in the British period of the history of the upper Mississippi Valley. While in Madison he made a survey of Minnesota history materials in the manuscript collections of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin.

Two special exhibits were prepared by the society for display at the Minnesota State Fair grounds during the Norse-American Centennial celebration from June 6 to 9. One occupied a booth in the Electrical Building, which was devoted to state department displays. Here the society's excellently preserved dog sled served as the central piece, with table cases, wing screens, and a number of framed pictures as the background. In general the exhibit was designed to illustrate the main activities of the society. The plan for erecting a typical pioneer log cabin on the fair grounds for use during the celebration was successfully carried through (see *ante*, p. 200). The cabin was set up near the Woman's Building and its furnishings included a rough table, hewn benches and stools, a pole bed, a loom, two spinning wheels, a churn, and a candle lantern, all supplied by the society. Into the constricted space of the cabin came throngs of interested visitors, many of whom knew the details of log cabin life from personal experience. The cabin received wide attention, and no little interest was evidenced in the society's plan to house it in the museum as a permanent exhibit. For the present it remains at the fair grounds where it is undergoing the process of weathering. Both

at the booth in the state departments building and at the log cabin representatives of the society distributed copies of a four-page folder, specially prepared for the occasion, entitled *The Minnesota Historical Society and the Historical Records of the Scandinavians in the United States*, in which attention is called to the work done by the society in the assembling and preserving of records in this field.

The twenty-second radio talk in the series given under the auspices of the society was by Mrs. Elizabeth H. Buck, who spoke from the Twin City station WCCO on May 1 on "Pioneer Days in Minnesota." A special radio talk was given on "Indian Folklore" on May 10 from the St. Paul studio of WCCO by Mr. Willoughby M. Babcock, the curator of the museum. The regular radio talks were discontinued during the summer.

"The Story of the Grand Portage" was the topic of talks by the superintendent before two organizations in Minneapolis in April. On May 7 he spoke before the Twin City Library Club on the subject, "Introducing Minnesota." The assistant superintendent spoke at the morning session of the Norse-American Centennial on June 8 at the State Fair grounds on "Cleng Pearson." The address is printed in the *St. Paul Dispatch* for that date. "The Indian Policy of the United States and the Agency System during the First Half of the Nineteenth Century" was the subject of a talk given by the curator of the museum to an American history class at Hamline University on April 28.

At the meeting of the executive council of the society on April 13, the curator of manuscripts told of materials for Minnesota history in manuscript collections in the East and in Europe.

Some recollections of the Civil War period by John Talman, the society's newspaper librarian, are published in the *Duluth Herald* for December 27, February 7, and April 11. In the first article he tells how his father's farm in Monroe County, New York, was used as a station for the underground railroad during the years preceding the war.

A paper on "The Problem of Accessioning in a Small Museum," prepared by the curator of the society's museum, was read

in his absence at a meeting of the Wisconsin Museum Conference at Oshkosh, Wisconsin, on April 10.

Reprints have been issued of an article by the assistant superintendent on "The Correlation of State and National History," which appeared in the April *Journal of the Minnesota Education Association*.

Miss Alice M. Humiston, head cataloguer of the society's library, has resigned to take a position as cataloguer with the library of the Southern Branch of the University of California in Los Angeles. Miss Elsa R. Nordin, formerly on the society's staff and more recently head cataloguer in the Carleton College library, has been appointed to fill the vacancy. Miss Dorothy F. Ware, reference assistant in the society's library for the past two years, has resigned her position in order to attend the New York State Library School in Albany. Her place has been filled by the appointment of Miss Elizabeth Ewing, who was graduated from the University of Minnesota last June.

Having completed a dissertation on "Norwegian Immigration before the Civil War," the assistant superintendent received the degree of doctor of philosophy from the University of Minnesota on June 15. During the first summer session of the university, which closed on August 1, he gave a course in the history of Minnesota.

ACCESSIONS

One of the largest and most important groups of papers ever received by the society has been secured with the help of Governor Christianson and Secretary Kellogg. These papers are the United States land office records for Minnesota, which were obtained after the closing of the federal land offices at Duluth and Crookston on April 1. The Duluth records consist of 169 letter books, 76 other bound volumes, and 207 boxes of loose papers, representing, in addition to Duluth, all other Minnesota land offices except those located at Detroit and Crookston. The records received from Crookston include the Detroit papers and consist of 139 letter books, 130 other bound volumes, and 72 boxes of loose papers. The collection as a whole has not been fully arranged,

and a detailed description of it cannot be given at present. It is certain, however, that this accession will make available to students of Minnesota history an important part of the fundamental land records of the state. The main classes of material included in the miscellaneous volumes indicate the interest and importance of the collection, for here are preëmption records; land-sale papers; records of homestead entries, including first and final proofs; records of entries on agricultural college land, by military warrants, on swamp lands, and by Sioux, Chippewa, and half-breed scrip; patent records; office books; and at least one tract book.

Copies of a letter written at Prairie du Chien in December, 1835, by Mrs. Benjamin Stambaugh, and of an accompanying enclosure written by her husband from Fort Snelling, where he had gone to seek the Fort Snelling sutlership, have been received from Miss Ruth Haven of Chatfield, in whose possession are the originals. The popular idea of the remoteness of the Minnesota frontier in the thirties is reflected in Mrs. Stambaugh's comment that her husband had gone "to *St. Peter's* (or Iceland I think would be more appropriate)." Her husband's letter describes his sixteen-day trip from Prairie du Chien to Fort Snelling. He held the office of sutler at that post for several years.

Typed copies of twenty-five letters written to the American Board of Commissioners of Foreign Missions by missionaries in Minnesota have been made for the society from originals in the library of the Congregational House, Boston (see *ante*, p. 202). The letters are written mainly by Jedediah Stevens in the period from 1834 to 1837 and by Dr. Thomas Williamson in 1834 and 1835. Particularly valuable is a forty-page letter from the latter to the Reverend David Greene written at Prairie du Chien on June 12, 1834, as a report on a trip just concluded, the purpose of which was to determine the most suitable sites for mission stations among the Sioux of the Minnesota Valley.

The reminiscences of one of the earliest settlers at Winona, George W. Clark, have recently been received from his son, Mr. Albert Clark, through the courtesy of Mr. Paul Thompson, both of Winona. The manuscript is valuable not only for its infor-

mation on the settlement of Winona, but also for its descriptions of claim societies and other pioneer institutions. The following reference to an Indian chief is of special interest: "Old Tomaha one eyed Sioux who died in 1860 at about 100 years of Age his dress w[h]en visiting us was [a] much worn Military Coat and Pantaloons of Blue cloth trimmed with red old stove pipe hat. Carried with him a package of papers inclosed in a Leather poccate book & also a large silver medle suspended from his neck this commission as chief of Sioux Nation given him by Govener Clark in 1814." The commission was a certificate of good character given by Governor William Clarke of Missouri in May, 1816. Tamaha was inordinately proud of this paper, cherishing it and wearing it always on his person until it was so badly defaced that in 1851 a true copy with a seal was made for him. This, too, wore out, and another copy was made. Both copies and the original were presented to the Minnesota Historical Society a number of years ago.

A large crude Indian drawing in colored crayons of the battle of White Stone on September 3, 1863, between Colonel Alfred Sully's forces and the Sioux has been received from Mr. Dana Wright of Jamestown, North Dakota, for photostatic reproduction.

Typed copies of a journal kept by Henry J. Hagadorn from January 11 to August 29, 1863, while a soldier in the Sibley expedition against the Sioux, have been secured through the courtesy of Professor John P. Pritchett of Macalester College, one of whose students produced the document in connection with a course in Minnesota history. The Hagadorn diary supplements excellently the five other diaries of the Sioux expeditions already in the possession of the society and affords many interesting sidelights on the experiences of a soldier in the Indian campaigns.

More than a hundred Civil War letters written by Charles E. Goddard, a soldier in the First Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, have been received by the society from Mr. Orrin F. Smith of Winona. One day in April, 1863, Goddard penned the following note, "Abraham Lincoln reviewed the Army of the Potomac yesterday, he looks pretty thin as if he had a gooddeal of thinking to do." Goddard was wounded at Gettysburg and later sent

to the general hospital in Philadelphia. Of his journey he remarks in a letter, "I was much surprised when we came to Baltimore to see the Ladies and men fly around to get us something to eat and drink and wash our wounds. When we went to Washington in 1861 we passed through Baltimore with 48 rounds of cartridges in our box and one in our guns expecting to be fired into by the citizens of the City." Goddard was returned to Fort Snelling in 1864. He died in 1868, shortly after his election to the office of register of deeds for Winona County.

Two Civil War letters written by Perry Honeywell of Company K, Third Minnesota Volunteer Infantry, together with a three-page typed history of Olmsted County, have been presented by Mrs. P. P. Harris of Stewartville.

Two certificates attesting the services rendered the whites during the Sioux Outbreak by an educated and friendly Sioux, Lorenzo Lawrence, together with his naturalization certificate, have been presented by his widow, now Mrs. Mary Lawrence Tasinto of Brown's Valley, through the courtesy of Mr. Samuel J. Brown.

The papers of Moses P. Hayes, which have been presented by Dr. Boyd T. Williams of Minneapolis, are a valuable addition to the society's materials on Minnesota economic history. Hayes, who was a native of Maine, came to St. Anthony in 1854, where he established a foundry business, the St. Anthony Iron Works. His papers cover the period from 1866 to 1879.

William H. Forbes, a fur-trader at Mendota and St. Paul for many years after 1837, became Indian agent at the Devil's Lake agency, Dakota Territory, in 1871. His diary, letter-press books, account ledgers, reports, and other business papers, mainly for the Devil's Lake period, have been received from Dr. James C. Ferguson of St. Paul, who has also presented some of his own papers and additional letters of Mrs. Forbes's sisters, Mrs. Alexis Bailly and Mrs. Louis Blum (see *ante*, p. 72). The letter books and business papers are of value for a study of Indian conditions in the later period of active Indian agencies, and one letter contains data about Custer's last fight.

A volume containing village records of Farmington for 1872, together with newspaper clippings of Farmington ordinances of later years and a number of miscellaneous records, has been presented to the society by Miss Mary Southworth of Northfield.

The society's picture collection has received a number of interesting additions during the quarter. An original oil painting of the "Site of St. Paul," by Captain Seth Eastman, who served as commander of Fort Snelling at intervals from 1841 to 1848, is the gift of his granddaughter, Mrs. Mary Eastman Bennett of Washington, D. C., and was received through the courtesy of Mrs. Charles E. Furness of St. Paul. The Buckbee-Mears Company of St. Paul has presented an album containing forty-eight views taken by T. W. Ingersoll, including a number of Indian photographs portraying canoe-making, the ceremonies connected with the medicine dance, and other activities. The Lee Brothers' Studio of Minneapolis has added a number of photographs to its special collection, including pictures of Governor Theodore Christianson, Lieutenant Governor W. I. Nolan, and several members of the 1925 legislature.

The "domestic life" collection in the museum has been enriched by the gift from Miss Mary Folwell of Minneapolis of a fine old pair of pewter candlesticks, a Staffordshire plate in black and white of the "Africana" design, and many other interesting articles. Mrs. Levi Lovenstein of St. Paul has presented a wedding dress of green silk poplin worn by her in 1871.

A birchbark box of Chippewa workmanship, heavily ornamented with porcupine quills, is the gift of Mrs. William Dawson of St. Paul. Two birchbark baskets secured by Miss Frances Densmore of Red Wing on the White Earth Indian Reservation have been received through Miss Mary Folwell.

NEWS AND COMMENT

Much can be learned about the temper of a people by noting how they write and interpret their history. The president of the American Historical Association, Professor Charles M. Andrews, observes in his book on the *Colonial Background of the American Revolution* (New York, 1924. 218 p.) that a "nation's attitude toward its own history is like a window into its own soul and the men and women of such a nation cannot be expected to meet the great obligations of the present if they refuse to exhibit honesty, charity, open-mindedness, and a free and growing intelligence toward the past that has made them what they are." The dissemination of a true conception of the nature and function of history is a matter of primary importance, if Professor Andrews' contention is valid. An essay on "History" by Professor Charles H. Haskins of Harvard University, in the *Historical Outlook* for May, is worthy of careful consideration in this connection. He believes that history may be looked upon in three ways: "as (1) a body of interesting and significant knowledge, full of vital and vivid pictures and important facts respecting the life and people of the past; (2) as a method of inquiry, which all the humanities and social sciences are obliged to use, sometimes without knowing it; and (3) as a certain point of view in relation to mankind." This point of view, he declares, implies a "critical attitude toward statements regarding the past" and involves "imagination and sympathy, the ability to see both sides of a question, and the power of looking at things from the point of view of other peoples and of other times." In brief, the historian "seeks to understand the past rather than to judge it by his own temporary and more or less arbitrary standards." It is hardly necessary to urge that the acquisition of the proper historical point of view is important not only for the study of world and national problems but also for an understanding of the state and the locality. Indeed, as the Lord Bishop of Durham remarks in an article in the English magazine, *History*, for April, "The gift of historical thinking is like the widow's cruse of unguishing oil in the Hebrew legend, the more you use it, the more effective and valuable it becomes."

An interesting experiment in local history is the launching of a bimonthly publication by the Green Bay (Wisconsin) Historical Society. Its object is to disseminate historical knowledge concerning that locality "by the publication of original manuscripts and documents not heretofore printed" and of papers read before the society. The first number was issued in February.

One cannot take seriously the naive and ragged assault on Professor Turner's theory of the American frontier which is made in an article bearing the delusive if euphonious title of "The Shibboleth of the Frontier," by John C. Almack, in the *Historical Outlook* for May.

A volume of source materials entitled *Pennsylvania History Told by Contemporaries*, edited by Asa E. Martin and Hiram H. Shenk (New York, 1925. 621 p.), is a suggestive piece of work for students interested in the problem of correlating state and national history.

An interesting article on "The Bois Fort Chippewa," by Albert B. Reagan, is published in the *Wisconsin Archeologist* for September, 1924. These Indians, numbering between six and seven hundred, have their lands around Nett Lake on the border line between Koochiching and St. Louis counties, Minnesota, and at the time of the author's acquaintance with them evidently retained many of their old traditions and customs. A considerable amount of detailed information about their methods of life and the native industries is presented, and the rules for and descriptions of a number of well-known Indian games are given.

An article on "Father De Smet and the Pottawattamie Indian Mission," by Frank A. Mullen, which is published in the *Iowa Journal of History and Politics* for April, throws considerable light on the difficulties with which the average missionary to the Indians had to contend and particularly the fearful effect of liquor upon the natives.

The fifty-sixth anniversary of the settlement of the first Chippewa on the White Earth Indian Reservation was celebrated by resident Indians on June 15, 16, and 17. A primitive Indian village was reproduced and its typical activities were revived as a feature of the celebration.

The annual pageant portraying Indian life, the coming of the French and the English, and the period of early American settlement in northern Wisconsin was presented at Bayfield, Wisconsin, from August 2 to 16. The chief actors were the Apostle Islands Indians, four hundred of whom participated in the spectacle.

A study of "The Song of Hiawatha," by Theodore Coleman, appears in the *Journal of American History* for April-June, 1924.

A valuable contribution to the history of the fur trade is made in an article entitled "The Quebec Fur-traders and Western Policy, 1763-1774," by Marjorie G. Reid, which appears in the *Canadian Historical Review* for March.

"Mapping the Mississippi Valley" is the title of an article by Louis C. Karpinski, published in the *Dearborn Independent* for May 2. Among several illustrations is a reproduction of Jolliet's map of 1673.

A brief biography of *David Thompson, the Explorer* has been brought out by Charles N. Cochrane (New York, 1924. 173 p.).

"The Railroad Background of the Kansas-Nebraska Act," Professor Frank H. Hodder's presidential address read before the Mississippi Valley Historical Association at Detroit last April, is published in the *Mississippi Valley Historical Review* for June. It is substantially the same as the address made by Professor Hodder at the annual meeting of the Minnesota Historical Society on January 19, 1925, a report of which is published *ante*, p. 30-32.

Land Settlement and Colonization in the Great Lakes States, by John D. Black and L. C. Gray, issued as *Department Bulletin* no. 1295 of the United States department of agriculture, deals with the northern portions of Minnesota, Wisconsin, and Michigan, and mainly with the situation in these regions since 1910. The study is useful both for the facts which it brings together and for the analytical methods which it illustrates.

"Icelandic Communities in America: Cultural Backgrounds and Early Settlements" is the title of an interesting article by Thorstina Jackson in the *Journal of Social Forces* for May.

Some attention is paid to Icelandic communities in Lyon and Lincoln counties, Minnesota. A prize essay by Ethel Thorsteins-son on the history of Gimli, a village on Lake Winnipeg which was founded by Icelandic settlers fifty years ago, is published in the *Manitoba Free Press* of Winnipeg for June 27.

The very rare work entitled "Sketches of Iowa and Wisconsin, Taken during a Residence of Three Years in Those Territories," by John Plumbe, Jr., originally published at St. Louis in 1839, is reprinted in the *Annals of Iowa* for January and April. The two territories embraced all of what is now Minnesota within their borders, and the latter part of the work contains a long passage upon the Falls of St. Anthony and a brief notice of "Saint Peters." The book was written with a view to its use by prospective immigrants.

An interesting study of Henry Hubbard, "A Yankee Land Speculator in Wisconsin," by Joseph Schafer, is the leading article in the *Wisconsin Magazine of History* for June. In the same number is a brief note on the Wisconsin-Minnesota gold rush of 1867-68.

Students of Minnesota history will be interested in an article on "The Interrelations of Canadian and American History in the American History Course," by Carl Wittke, which appears in the *Ohio History Teachers' Journal* for November, 1924.

In the *Annual Report* of the Canadian Historical Association for 1923 is an interesting address on "The North West Company," by Lawrence J. Burpee, which, when presented, was illustrated "by means of wall maps, coloured and uncoloured lantern slides, phonograph records, motion pictures and a village chorus," and now is printed to illustrate the possibilities in a plan of public lectures which the association is developing in collaboration with the Public Archives of Canada. In the same report Mr. Burpee prints a brief article entitled "Notes on David Thompson." In the *Annual Report* for 1924 is published a presidential address by Mr. Burpee which describes various novel methods used by the Canadian Historical Association in popularizing the history of the Dominion. The most interesting article in the 1924 volume is

Mr. Burpee's account of "The Beaver Club," the social organization established at Montreal in 1775 by the founders of the Northwest Company.

An article which throws light on some aspects of the early history of the region north of Lake Superior is published in the *Fifteenth Annual Report* of the Thunder Bay Historical Society under the title "Some Early History of Thunder Bay and District," by A. J. McComber.

THE NORSE-AMERICAN CENTENNIAL

The outstanding feature of the Norse-American centennial celebration, held in St. Paul at the Minnesota State Fair grounds from June 6 to 9, was the historical exhibit assembled under the direction of Dr. Knut Gjerset of Luther College, Decorah, Iowa, and displayed in the Woman's Building, for almost every phase of Norwegian-American development was illustrated by it and some of the displays were of exceptional interest. There were twenty-two large divisions in the exhibit as a whole, each representing one important activity or field of work, such as agriculture, literature, pioneer life, the church, schools, music, industries, art, and societies and organizations. For each division an historical essay had been prepared by some special student of the subject, and it is to be hoped that these essays will eventually be published. Special mention may be made of the book exhibit, prepared under the direction of Mr. J. C. M. Hansen of Chicago, which was designed to represent every Norwegian-American author. In a separate building was an official Minnesota state exhibit authorized by the legislature, illustrating the work of the various state departments. The Minnesota Historical Society was represented in this exhibit and also coöperated with the centennial management in erecting a pioneer log cabin which was open to the thousands of centennial visitors (see *ante*, p. 289). Perhaps the most unique single exhibit at the fair grounds was a full-size reproduction of the "Restaurationen," the vessel which in 1825 brought to the United States the first group of nineteenth-century Norwegian immigrants.

In the general work of gathering material for the Norse-American centennial exhibit a great many individuals coöperated with

the central committee headed by Dr. Gjerset. How far this coöperation was carried is evidenced by a printed *Catalog of Exhibits* (59 p.), which lists several hundred contributors and the items loaned by each. Not a few of the notable exhibits were brought to St. Paul from the Luther College museum, and it is to be hoped that that institution will retain much of the miscellaneous material which was assembled. A printed catalog of the art exhibition lists no less than 225 pictures, sculptures, and other art objects which were assembled under the direction of Miss Herborg Reque. The centennial exhibits as a whole were of value not only for the light shed upon the story of Norwegian-American life but as a striking illustration of the possibilities in gathering up museum objects in the Middle West, given the requisite popular enthusiasm.

The program of the centennial included a considerable number of sessions with numerous papers and addresses. On June 6 the *bygdelag* conventions were held — more than thirty in number — with programs centering about the history of the emigration from certain specified districts in Norway and the story of the achievements in the United States of the people from these regions. On Sunday, June 7, religious services and official programs were held, with sermons by distinguished clergymen from Norway and America and addresses of welcome and responses. The central feature of the sessions on June 8 was an address by President Coolidge in which the story of the Norwegians in America was adequately reviewed. Indeed the President exhibited an unexpected familiarity with the history of the Norwegian immigration, and he spoke in the spirit of the professional historian when he suggested some of the research possibilities in the general field of American immigration. Many brief addresses were given at sessions on June 8 and 9 on special phases of the history of Norwegian immigration or Norwegian-American activity. Among the topics discussed were the following: "The Sloopers," by O. M. Norlie; "Cleng Peerson," by Theodore C. Blegen; "The Pioneer Physician," by Carl D. Kolset; "My Mother, the Sloop Baby," by Jane S. Atwater; "The Pioneer Pastor," by I. D. Ylvisaker; "The Norwegian Woman's Place in American History," by Bertha C. Peterson; "The Contribution of the Norwegian Element in the Field of American Scholarship," by Lawrence M. Larson; "Norse Contribution to Agriculture," by

O. P. B. Jacobson; "The Norse-American School," by Oscar L. Olson; "The Norse-American Church," by J. A. Morehead; "Norse Influence on American Literature," by Henry A. Bellows; "The Norwegian Pioneer Woman," by Susie Stageberg; "Glimpses of Pioneer Life," by Ole Sageng; and "Norse-American Literature," by J. A. Holvik. Many of these addresses were published in full or in part in the newspapers and some of them will doubtless appear later in book form. The officials in charge of the centennial did not permit the publication of historical material to be delayed until after the celebration, however. They brought out a *History of the Norwegian People in America*, by O. M. Norlie (Minneapolis, 1925. 512 p.), and an official program entitled *Norse-American Centennial 1825-1925* (96 p.). The latter includes prize essays on the meaning of the centennial celebration by Waldemar Ager and O. M. Norlie and also an extended article on the "Saga of the Norsemen in America," by Martin W. Odland. A review of Dr. Norlie's book will appear in a later number of this magazine.

The closing event of the centennial was an elaborate historical pageant dealing with the Norwegian pioneers in the United States. The career of Hans C. Heg, who died at Chickamauga as colonel of the Fifteenth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, the regiment of Norwegian-American soldiers, supplied the thread on which the pageant story was strung.

Naturally the centennial did much to popularize the story of Norwegian immigration. In addition to the mass of press reports which appeared in the newspapers, a number of special articles of historical value were published. For example, an entire section of the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for June 7 is devoted to Norwegian-American history. A general account of Norwegian immigration and an article about some Norwegian-Americans who have become national figures are contributed by Gustav M. Bruce; the part played by Norwegians in the development of Minnesota is outlined by Ole Malmin; stories of Norwegian settlement in Wisconsin, South Dakota, and Alaska are included; and the history of St. Olaf College at Northfield is reviewed. A reprint from the June issue of MINNESOTA HISTORY of portions of "Peter Testman's Account of His Experiences in North America" concludes the

section. The story of the "Restaurationen" and of subsequent Norwegian immigration is sketched in somewhat melodramatic fashion by Leif Gilstad in a feature article in the *Minneapolis Journal* for May 31. In the *Minneapolis Tidende* for May 28 is a series of articles entitled "Det norske Amerika gjennom hundrede aar," by Carl G. Hansen, and the issue of *Skandinaven* (Chicago) for June 5 is a centennial number containing many special articles on the work of the Norwegians in America.

An interesting compilation of selected items drawn from the files of the Norwegian-American newspaper *Emigranten* for 1857 and 1859 was brought out just before the centennial celebration under the title *Norse Immigrant Letters: Glimpses of Norse Immigrant Life in the Northwest in the Fifties*, by Richard B. Eide, a student of journalism in the University of Minnesota (Minneapolis. 46 p.). There are eleven items, each of which is published in the original and in a literal English translation. These are preceded by a brief introduction in two parts, the first sketching the Norwegian immigration of the nineteenth century and the second dealing with the character and influence of *Emigranten*, a paper which the author characterizes as "a clearing house for immigrant thought as well as a round-robin letter" for Norwegian Republicans. One letter, written in 1859, describes a patriotic celebration on board an emigrant ship in the mid-Atlantic. Another gives a detailed account of the Bonnet Prairie settlement in Wisconsin. A vivid picture of the situation in Dakota County, Minnesota, in 1859 is presented in a third. There are two items dealing with conditions in Blue Earth County in 1857. Perhaps the most valuable single item is an account of a trip through central and western Minnesota in 1859 by a Lutheran clergyman, A. G. Frederichson. Political conditions in Minnesota are reflected in a letter written in 1857 urging all the Minnesota Norwegians to vote the Republican ticket. Mr. Eide's pamphlet is a fair illustration of the valuable historical material which is to be found in the files of such newspapers as *Emigranten*. The chief criticisms to be made of the compilation are that it is too fragmentary and that there are numerous misprints.

In the *Community Bookshelf* for June, the Minneapolis Public Library presents several brief articles about Norwegian and Nor-

wegian-American writings, and a list of titles in the same field has also been issued by the St. Paul Public Library. Both appeared just before the centennial.

A review of Norwegian-American achievements during the century since 1825 is contributed to the *American-Scandinavian Review* for June by Lawrence M. Larson. In the same number are interesting accounts of the "Restaurationen — The Norse Mayflower," by Rasmus B. Anderson, and a selection of "Letters from the Sloop Folk," translated from the originals by Gunnar J. Malmin. "Norge i Vesterheimen" is the title of a well-written review of Norwegian-American development published by Albert O. Barton in *Sønner af Norge* for June, which also includes a complete reprint of Ole Rynning's *Sandfærdig Beretning om Amerika*. Of the original of this well-known account of the United States, which was published in Norway in 1838, only one copy is known to be in existence, and copies of the reprint of 1896 are also very rare. A translation of it may be found in the MINNESOTA HISTORY BULLETIN for November, 1917.

THE UPPER MISSOURI HISTORICAL EXPEDITION

"To commemorate fittingly the notable explorations and discoveries of several distinguished pathfinders of the Great Northwest" an expedition organized by the Great Northern Railway Company and sponsored by the governors of North Dakota and Montana and the heads of the state historical societies of those states and of Minnesota and South Dakota was made from July 16 to 21 to various places in North Dakota and Montana, with St. Paul as the rendezvous. The object of the expedition, as stated in a beautifully printed invitation issued by the sponsors, was to hold "a series of memorial Celebrations . . . at Verendrye and Fort Union, in the State of North Dakota, and Meriwether in the State of Montana . . . in honor of Pierre Gaultier de Varennes, sieur de La Verendrye, French-Canadian discoverer of the Upper Missouri river; David Thompson, English geographer and surveyor; Captain Meriwether Lewis, leader of the Lewis and Clark expedition of 1804-6; Kenneth McKenzie, who established Fort Union and other dauntless members of the American Fur Company and the Northwest Company, who explored and made known

the Upper Missouri." In the printed program of the expedition two additional objects are indicated: "to awaken greater public interest in the historic background of the territory traversed by these hardy adventurers of an earlier day," and to commemorate not only the achievements of the better-known explorers, but also those of "that host of obscurer pathfinders who preceded and made possible the settlement of the Northwest."

The program opened with a luncheon given by Mr. Ralph Budd, president of the Great Northern Railway Company, and Mrs. Budd at the Somerset Club near St. Paul, followed by a visit to Pilot Knob, the Sibley House, and Fort Snelling, on July 16. On the following day the expedition, which included approximately a hundred persons, reached by special train a town in North Dakota, the name of which was recently changed from Falsen to Verendrye. Here on the morning of July 17 a program was held in honor of La Vérendrye and of David Thompson. An address on "The Verendryes, Discoverers of Dakota" was delivered by the distinguished Canadian historian, Professor Lawrence J. Burpee, and the memory of Thompson was honored by the presentation of a monument in his honor to the state of North Dakota by the Great Northern Railway Company. A paper entitled "David Thompson, Astronomer and Geographer" was read by Mr. T. C. Elliott, well known for his publications in the general field of the exploration of the West and especially the Pacific Northwest.

The members of the expedition motored from Verendrye to Minot, where a banquet was tendered them by the people of that city at 6:00 P.M. on July 17. An interesting program followed the dinner, with speeches on "Ties That Still Bind" by Mr. Doane Robinson, superintendent of the State Department of History of South Dakota; "Heroes of the Task" by Miss Agnes C. Laut of New York, who has done much to popularize the history of the Canadian West; "Imagination in American Life" by Mr. Lawrence F. Abbott of New York; and "The Preservation and Recording of History" by Miss Stella M. Drumm of St. Louis, librarian of the Missouri Historical Society.

On July 18 an elaborate program was carried out at Fort Union, where a reception was given the visiting party by the representatives of eleven Indian tribes. An exhibition of his-

torical objects and photographs, prepared by the state historical societies of North Dakota and Montana and Mr. L. A. Hoffman, a photographer of Miles City, Montana, added not a little to the interest of the occasion. Indian contests preceded a flag raising and a program, the principal features of which were an address by Major General Hugh L. Scott and responses by Indian chiefs on behalf of the assembled tribesmen. In the afternoon a series of Indian games and contests was held. At an evening Indian ceremony three members of the visiting party, Mr. Abbott, Justice Pierce Butler of the United States Supreme Court, and Mrs. Magnus Jenne, a St. Paul artist who has devoted much time to portraying Indian life, were officially adopted each into a different Indian tribe and given Indian names. The interest of the visit to the site of old Fort Union was considerably enhanced by the distribution of facsimile reprints — made by the Great Northern Railway Company — of three numbers of the *Frontier Scout*, a paper issued in 1864 by Company I of the Thirtieth Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry, which was stationed at the fort. The numbers reprinted were for July 14 and 27 and August 17, 1864, numbers 2, 3, and 4 of volume 1, and they contain many vivid and interesting items of news about the life among the soldiers at the fort, the Sully expedition, the Idaho mines, national politics, and other topics. Among the special articles is one entitled "Josh Billings on Cats."

On the next day, July 19, the party visited Havre and made an automobile trip to "Chief Joseph Battlefield," scene of battle in 1877 between the Nez Percé Indians and United States troops commanded by Nelson A. Miles. At Meriwether on July 20 the Great Northern Railway Company presented to the state of Montana a monument in honor of Meriwether Lewis. A paper prepared by Mr. Olin D. Wheeler of St. Paul on "The First National Exploration of the United States of America" was read, and an address on "Captain Lewis' Marias River Expedition" was given by Mr. Sidney M. Logan of Kalispell, Montana.

The last formal program of the expedition was held at Marias Pass, on the continental divide, where a statue was unveiled in honor of Mr. John Frank Stevens, a civil engineer who in 1889 while on a reconnaissance for the Great Northern Railroad

explored Marias Pass. Among the speakers were Mr. Robert Ridgway, president of the American Society of Civil Engineers, Justice Butler, who gave an address on "John F. Stevens and Marias Pass," and Mr. Stevens himself, who made a modest response. The informal discussions, in large or small groups, throughout the entire expedition were scarcely less interesting than the formal, and added much to the pleasure of the trip. Noteworthy were the vivid accounts by the wife of General Scott of her experiences as the bride of a young army officer on the frontier a generation ago.

Special mention should be made of a number of pamphlets printed by the Great Northern Railway Company for distribution among those who accompanied the expedition. One, entitled *An Important Visit, Zebulon Montgomery Pike, 1805* (10 p.), is an illustrated account of Pike's upper Mississippi expedition drawn chiefly from his own narrative. It contains an excellent map showing the location of Pike's Island, Fort Snelling, the Sibley House, Mendota, Pilot Knob, and other places of historic interest. Other pamphlets printed for the expedition bear the following titles: *Chief Joseph's Own Story* (29 p.), reprinted from the *North American Review* for April, 1879; *The Story of Marias Pass* (23 p.), and *A Glance at the Lewis and Clark Expedition* (29 p.), both by Grace Flandrau; *Fort Union and Its Neighbors on the Upper Missouri, a Chronological Record of Events* (36 p.), by Frank B. Harper; and a *Library List* for the expedition (8 p.), giving the titles of the books in the library of the expedition's special train. An interesting souvenir of the expedition, furnished by the Great Northern Railway Company, was a reproduction of the famous La Vérendrye plate, the original of which was found at Fort Pierre in 1913. A vest-pocket booklet was also printed (23 p.), telling the story of *The Verendrye Plate*.

The Upper Missouri Historical Expedition attracted wide attention. Large throngs of people forgathered at the open meetings, many prominent persons participated in the proceedings, several permanent monuments of imposing appearance were set up, and the press and the moving picture interests did not fail to give due attention to the entire affair. That the expedition served effectively to stimulate popular interest in the historical backgrounds

of the regions traversed can scarcely be doubted. It has been announced that plans are being made for similar projects in 1926 and the two following years. The next expedition will be to the Oregon country.

GENERAL MINNESOTA ITEMS

James Watson Webb's Trip Across Illinois in 1822, by Frank E. Stevens (Sycamore, Illinois, 1924. 16 p.), is a story of a ride made by a young lieutenant in the United States army in February, 1822, from Fort Dearborn to Fort Armstrong with dispatches which were forwarded to Fort Snelling. The occasion for the sending of the dispatches is indicated in the following account by Webb, quoted from his story originally published in 1846: "Early in February, 1822, the principal chief of the Potawatomies, one of the most friendly tribes west of Lake Michigan, reported to the Indian agent (Kinzie) at our post that his tribe had received an invitation from the Sioux Indians to unite with them in cutting off the garrison at St. Peter's, at the Falls of St. Anthony; and, as evidence of his truth, produced the tobacco, said to have been sent to them by the Sioux, and which generally accompanies such propositions for a war league. As no doubt was entertained of the truth of this report, the commanding officer directed me (the adjutant) to make an arrangement with some of the voyageurs connected with the Indian trading house near the fort, to carry the intelligence to Fort Armstrong, situated on Rock Island, in the Mississippi, near the mouth of Rock River, thence to be forwarded to Colonel Snelling."

An elementary account of the *Geography of Minnesota*, by C. E. Huff, originally prepared for inclusion in a Minnesota edition of a general geography textbook, has been brought out as a separate publication (New York, 1923. 52 p.). Although historical geography is given comparatively little attention, the work is a distinctly useful compilation for teachers and students of Minnesota history.

Articles in the series entitled "Rediscovering Minnesota" continue to appear each day in the *Minnesota Daily Star* of Minneapolis (see *ante*, p. 216). The subject matter of the sketches has

changed, however; in the place of notes on Minnesota geographic names, interesting bits of state history gleaned from Dr. Folwell's *History of Minnesota* are offered.

Some material relating to the pioneer missionaries, Samuel W. and Gideon H. Pond, appears in recent issues of local newspapers. The activities of the brothers around Fort Snelling after 1834 are described by the younger in a letter written to a St. Paul minister from Oak Grove on January 7, 1858, portions of which are printed in the *St. Paul Dispatch* for June 9. The letter was discovered recently at Jordan. In some reminiscences published in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for May 31, Mr. E. J. Pond of Shakopee recalls some of the experiences with the Indians of his father, Samuel W. Pond, and tells of the early life of the family at the present site of Shakopee before the village was founded by Thomas A. Holmes.

Considerable information about the background of the University of Minnesota is included in a monograph entitled *The Financial Support of State Universities*, by Richard R. Price. The work, which is volume 6 in the *Harvard Studies in Education*, is "a study of the financial resources of state universities in the light of the experience of the universities of the old Northwest Territory" (Cambridge, 1924. 205 p.).

The growth of St. Olaf College at Northfield, typified by the contrast between the new main building and the little frame structure in which the college had its origin, is outlined in an article which commemorates the semicentennial of the school in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for May 24. The anniversary was marked by the dedication of the new building by the Reverend Hans G. Stub of St. Paul, who delivered the principal address fifty years ago when the college received its charter.

A feature article of unusual interest in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for May 31 has for its subject the Red River trails and the trade which passed over them. Descriptions of the trains of carts which carried furs and supplies between St. Paul and Winnipeg and travelers' accounts of the route are cited. The value of the narrative is greatly enhanced by the illustrations, which include

pictures of Red River carts and of old Fort Garry and a map of the early trails and of the modern automobile route between St. Paul and Winnipeg. The map is based upon information furnished by Dr. Grace L. Nute, curator of manuscripts for the Minnesota Historical Society.

Installments of Captain Fred A. Bill's history of "Navigation above the Falls of St. Anthony" continue to appear in the *Burlington Post*, formerly the *Saturday Evening Post* of Burlington, Iowa (see *ante*, p. 216). Part 1, dealing with navigation between St. Anthony and St. Cloud, is concluded on May 9. It ends with sketches of some of the captains who operated boats between these points—George F. Brott, Caleb D. Dorr, Lewis McDonald, Charles H. Meeds, Isaac N. Moulton, and the Young brothers. Part 2, the first installment of which appears on June 13, describes navigation between Sauk Rapids and Pokegama Falls.

The beginnings of the coöperative creamery movement in Minnesota are described in an article in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for May 31. The account deals especially with the development of the Clark's Grove creamery, one of the first coöperative creameries in Minnesota and a model for other creameries of this type.

An interview with an old-time lumberjack, Mr. Michael McAlpine of Grand Rapids, who began to work in the Minnesota woods in 1874, is printed in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for June 7. The writer of the article, Mr. C. C. Kelly, suggests Mr. McAlpine as a model for the proposed statue of a lumberjack on the Capitol grounds.

Pioneer Minnesota farming methods are described in an article about Mr. Lester Taylor, a veteran Scott County farmer, in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for May 17.

LOCAL HISTORY ITEMS

An excellent illustration of the opportunities for study in the field of local history is afforded in the spring number of the *Moccasin*, a publication issued by the Junior High School of the Moorhead State Teachers College. The entire number is devoted

to historical essays prepared by students under the direction of Miss Ella A. Hawkinson. There are brief articles on the fur trade, the Selkirk settlement, buffalo hunting, the Indians, dog trains, Red River carts, early steamboats, stage lines, early settlements, pioneer reminiscences, and other topics of regional or strictly local interest. They are interesting to read and, on the whole, of distinct value despite occasional errors in detail.

Recollections of an impromptu Fourth of July celebration at Arlington in 1863, when news reached the village of the killing of Little Crow, the leader in the Sioux War of the previous year, are published in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for June 28.

The *Fairmont Daily Sentinel* continues to print in its Saturday issues "Letters from a Pioneer Woman: Britania J. Livingston," edited by Nora Livingston Heermance (see *ante*, p. 219). Among the recent installments of special interest are an account of conditions resulting from the grasshopper plague of 1874 in Martin County, published on April 4, and a description of "pioneer clothing" in the issues for April 25 and May 2. A pioneer community Christmas celebration at the neighborhood schoolhouse is the subject of the letter published on June 6.

Reminiscences of two Fairmont women, Mrs. Bertha A. Young and Mrs. Emma B. Day,—sisters, who sixty years ago made the long journey overland from New York state with their mother to join their father on the Minnesota frontier,—are published in the *Fairmont Daily Sentinel* for May 1.

The old Valley House, a hotel erected at Henderson in 1854, is being preserved as an historic landmark according to articles in the *Minneapolis Tribune* for June 7 and the *Minneapolis Journal* for June 21.

The seventieth anniversary of the founding of the Swedish Lutheran Church of Vasa was celebrated on June 14. In connection with the ceremonies a monument to the memory of the founder of the church, Dr. Erik Norelius, was unveiled.

Stories of St. Lawrence, a village which gave promise in the fifties of becoming a flourishing city, are combined with tales of the neighboring town of Belle Plaine to make up a feature

story in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for May 17. The illustrations include pictures of the old hotel of St. Lawrence, now used as a barn — the only remaining building of the old town site.

Evidence that Helena, Montana, was named for Helena Township in Scott County, Minnesota, is presented in an article in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for June 28. According to this account a number of men from Scott County who went west with the Sully expedition of 1864 helped to found the Montana city and named it for their former home in Minnesota.

As a feature of the Exposition of Progress and Iron Ore Golden Jubilee held in Duluth from July 20 to 25, a pageant in three episodes depicting incidents in American, Minnesota, and local history was presented.

The seventy-fifth anniversary of the founding of the first Swedish settlement in Minnesota — Scandia in Washington County — was marked by a celebration at that place on June 23 and 24. An account of the founding of this pioneer community and sketches of the three Swedish frontiersmen who settled in its neighborhood in 1850 — Carl A. Fernstrom, Oscar Roos, and August Sandahl — appear in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for June 21.

In response to an inquiry about a school located in North Minneapolis and taught by George W. Hale during the winter of 1856, Mr. William T. Kerr of Minneapolis, one of the pupils, describes it in an interesting letter published in the *Minneapolis Journal* for April 11. Not only does Mr. Kerr present an excellent picture of the crude frontier schoolhouse, but he also gives its approximate location and names some of the pupils who attended.

The First Presbyterian Church of Minneapolis, which was founded by pioneer missionaries and residents of Fort Snelling in 1835, celebrated its ninetieth anniversary on June 11 with a program the feature of which was a reminiscent paper by the Reverend Maurice D. Edwards of St. Paul on the "Beginnings of Presbyterianism in Minnesota." A copy of the first minute book of the church, covering the years from 1835 to 1871, was formally

presented to the Minnesota Historical Society by the Reverend John T. Bergen and accepted for the society by Dr. Grace L. Nute.

A survey, in the *St. Paul Pioneer Press* for June 28, of the St. Paulites who have held important posts in the national government is occasioned by the recent appointment of four St. Paul lawyers to positions in Washington.

St. Paul's first Sunday school, directed by Harriet E. Bishop and attended by seven children in 1847, is the subject of an article in the *St. Paul Daily News* for April 19.



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