

Book Notices

Claude G. Bowers, whose volumes in the field of American history, *Party Battles of the Jackson Period*, *Jefferson and Hamilton*, *The Tragic Era*, have been so widely read, has brought out a new work which is being received with high favor, and which is selling at a high price even in the midst of an unprecedented depression. The new book carries the title, *Beveridge and the Progressive Era*. It will appeal strongly to Indiana readers.

This piece of writing by Mr. Bowers is in the nature of a new venture on his part. In his earlier volumes, he was presenting men and events as the champion of Republicans over against Federalists, Democrats against Whigs, and Democrats against the Radical Republicans of the period of political reconstruction or "age of hate." In the Beveridge treatise, he has been led to study a recent era with a view to giving due credit to a leader who was not a Democrat though he was by no means a regular Republican. The effort has been good for the author, and, in respect to partisan bias, he has shown substantial improvement. With his acquired experience as an investigator, his facility as a writer, and his productive zeal, readers of American history can only desire that he will continue to write. One hope is yet indulged by students who are primarily interested in getting at the truth—that Mr. Bowers will become as anxious to write history in a spirit of detachment as did his sincere friend, Albert J. Beveridge, when preparing his volumes on Lincoln. The new book by Mr. Bowers is a publication of the Houghton Mifflin Company which retails at \$5.00.

An unusually attractive little volume has come to the *Indiana Magazine of History* from the Minnesota Historical Society. Miss Bertha L. Heilbron, assistant editor of the publications of that Society, has edited with introduction and notes the "Diary and Sketches" of Frank Blackwell Mayer under the title, *With Pen and Pencil on the Frontier in 1851*. The diarist was a young artist of Baltimore who began his diary when he started on his journey to far-off Minnesota Territory. He traveled by train to Cumberland, Maryland, where he took the stage for Pittsburgh. From that place, he went down the Ohio

River by steamboat, stopping at Cincinnati and Louisville. From the latter city, he proceeded by stage to Nashville, and thence to St. Louis by the Cumberland, Ohio, and Mississippi. After a side trip up the River to Hannibal and Alexandria, the diarist took a steamboat from St. Louis for St. Paul. That part of the journal which covers his experiences from May 7, 1851, until his arrival at the capital of Minnesota Territory on June 15, is very interesting and informing. This portion of the diary occupies over sixty printed pages.

The remainder of the diary which extends to July 18, occupies a little more than a hundred pages. In these entries, the artist furnishes matter pertaining to the Minnesota of that day. He journeyed to the Territory "to satisfy a visual craving—to see at first hand the natives, their villages, their customs, their utensils, their dances, their feasts, their ceremonies—rather than to learn how the Great Father at Washington dealt with his red children and bought their fertile prairies and their rich woodlands at a few cents an acre." To this comment Miss Heilbron adds: "It is just possible that the artist's overwhelming interest in the natives accounts for the fact that the emphasis in his diary is on Indian life and that the treaties of 1857 are neglected."

The printed diary is accompanied by illustrations which are reproductions of the sketches by the pencil of Mayer. These add much to the value and interest of the book for the reader. This small volume, on which such excellent work has been done by both editor and printer, may be obtained from the Minnesota Historical Society for \$2.50. It is the first volume in a *Narratives and Documents* series, which it happily inaugurates. Future volumes will be awaited with high expectations.

Indiana History Bulletin, vol. IX, number 12, the issue of September, 1932, is a "High School Number". It was edited by a committee representing the high school teachers of social science of the state, of which committee Daniel W. Snapp of the Bosse High School, Evansville, was the chairman. The articles are devoted to the work of high school teachers in presenting Indiana history and government including local history and local problems of government. The following brief contributions from high school instructors appear in the *Bul-*

letin: "Adventures among Yesterdays", by Julia LeClerc Knox; "The Need of a Good High School Text in Indiana History", by Jeanette Landrum; "The Place of the Local History Club in our High Schools", by Mrs. Sadie Bacon Hatcher; "The Museum as an Aid in Teaching History", by L. Talbert Buck. There is a "Foreword" by Mr. Snepp.

In addition to the above mentioned articles there is "A New Declaration of the Objectives of Teaching History", by C. Roy Williams of the Indiana University School of Education. The State Superintendent of Public Instruction, George C. Cole, contributes a paper in which he sets forth the place of "Indiana History and Government in the Social Studies Program", as outlined in a *Tentative Course of Study in Elementary Social Studies*, recently issued by the State Department. Under the caption, "The High School Teacher and the Historical Society", Dr. Christopher B. Coleman presents unanswerable arguments showing why high school instructors in the social studies field should all be members of the Indiana Historical Society. For the good of those to whom the appeal is directed and likewise for the future welfare of the Society, it is hoped that Dr. Coleman's sound advice will be weighed and acted upon by a large number of high school teachers.

A Pioneer Indiana Railroad, the Origin and Development of the Monon is a study in Indiana history that recently appeared. The author is Prof. Frank F. Hargrave of Purdue University who has done much research in the history of Indiana railroads. Such a monograph is very welcome, and will certainly be read by many who are interested in railway history in addition to students who are anxious to learn more about any phase of Indiana history that may be presented. A review of Professor Hargrave's book, which he has published privately and copies of which may be obtained by writing directly to him, will appear in the *Indiana Magazine of History* for December.