

## THE ANNALS OF IOWA

thirteen different positions with the National Park Service, beginning in 1929 as a fire fighter in Alaska and finally working as the director of the Albright Training Academy at Grand Canyon National Park. The Institute of the American West copublished this handsome volume which is a real credit to the publishers and the author.

*1,001 Broadways: Hometown Talent on Stage*, by Lorelei F. Eckey, Maxine A. Schoyer, and William T. Schoyer. (Ames: Iowa State University Press, 1982. 143 pp., illustrations, bibliographic essay, index, \$12.95 cloth.)

This is a biography of Franceswayne Allen (sister of Maxine Allen Schoyer) and the Universal Producing Company of Fairfield, Iowa. It describes the almost forgotten theatrical phenomenon of early twentieth-century America—the home talent show. The home talent shows of the 1920s and 1930s took the forms of plays, musicals, pageants, and revues, which were written or adapted by a professional production company which used local citizens as performers. This is a fun book for casual readers and for students of theater and Iowa history.

*Farm Women on the Prairie Frontier: A Sourcebook for Canada and the United States*, by Carol Fairbanks and Sara Brooks Sundberg. (Metuchen, N.J.: Scarecrow Press, 1983. 237 pp., illustrations, index, \$17.50 cloth.)

This sourcebook is intended for students, teachers, and general readers who wish to explore the historical and literary materials of the grasslands of Canada and the United States. Four essays in Part I provide useful introductions to the land and the people, the history and the fiction. Part II, the annotated bibliography of source materials, directs readers to relevant materials including diaries, reminiscences, general books, and literary criticisms. It is a very useful introduction to this topic and well worth the attention of midwestern students.

*The Oral History Collections of the Minnesota Historical Society*, compiled by Lila Johnson Goff and James E. Fogerty. (St. Paul: Minnesota Historical Society Press, 1984. 121 pp., index, \$7.95 paper.)

This guide includes 1,474 oral history interviews. Part 1 lists those housed in the Minnesota Historical Society in St. Paul and Part 2 lists those housed in the various Regional Research Centers in Minnesota. There are numerous topical headings ranging from labor unions to Farm Holiday Association. A handy index to interviewers

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