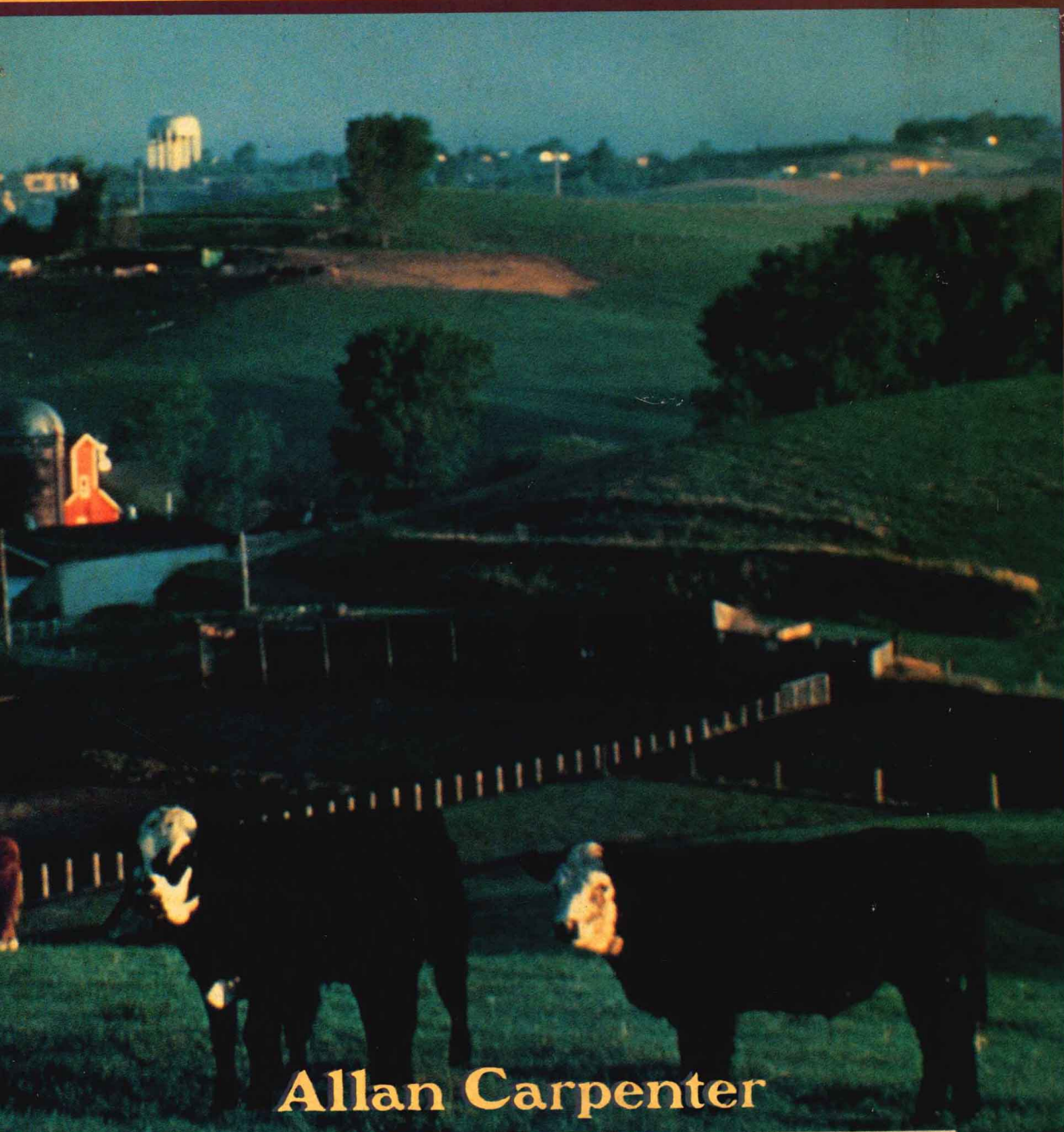


The Encyclopedia of *THE MIDWEST*



Allan Carpenter

Over 2,500 entries on all aspects of this unique region—
its history, geography, economy, politics,
personalities and much more.

The Encyclopedia of the Midwest

by Allan Carpenter

Editorial Assistant

Carl Provorse

Contributor

Randy Lyon



Facts On File

New York • Oxford

The Encyclopedia of the Midwest

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Facts On File, Inc.
460 Park Avenue South
New York, New York 10016

Library of Congress Cataloging-in-Publication Data

Carpenter, Allan, 1917-

The encyclopedia of the Midwest / Allan Carpenter.

p. cm.

Includes index.

ISBN 0-8160-1660-7

1. Middle West—Dictionaries and encyclopedias. I. Title.

F351.C33 1988

977'.003'21—dc19

88-27410

CIP

British CIP data available on request

Printed in the United States of America

10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

CONTENTS

Acknowledgments	4
Introduction	5
Entries A-Z	7 - 404
States	
Illinois	222
Indiana	235
Iowa	245
Michigan	308
Minnesota	321
Missouri	329
Ohio	356
Wisconsin	490
Bibliography	505
Index	507

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The author wishes to thank the following for their very generous assistance in preparation of this work. Those sources which provided illustrations along with other valuable assistance are listed with a page number.

American Airlines, 90
Architect of the U.S. Capitol, 169
Board of Harbor Commissioners, City of Milwaukee, 318
Chicago Convention and Tourism Bureau, 24, 60, 85, 342
Chicago Historical Society, 48, 115, 171, 345, 351, 378, 381, 386, 387, 403, 407
Eisenhower Museum, Abilene, KS, 146
Evanston, Illinois, Public Library
Field Museum of Natural History, 157
Ford Motor Company, 30, 166
Greater Cleveland Growth Association, 99
Green Bay Area Chamber of Commerce, 367
Greenfield Village and Henry Ford Museum, 119
Harry S Truman Nat. Historic Site,
Ill. Dept. of Commerce, 21, 86, 226, 228, 345, 439, 442, 469
Indiana Department of Commerce, 81, 185, 347
Indiana Development Commission, 79, 240, 244, 472
Iowa Development Commission, 11, 15, 54, 124, 135, 250, 374
Jesse Besser Museum
Libraries of Loyola University
Library of Congress
Library, Rand McNally and Co.
Mackinac Island State Park Commission, 38
Mayo Clinic
Michigan Bell Telephone Company, 8, 77, 177, 235, 371
Michigan Dept. of Natural Resources, 212, 315
Michigan Travel Commission, 6, 40, 277, 294, 300
Milwaukee Public Museum, 32
Minneapolis Chamber of Commerce, 200
Minneapolis Convention and Tourism Commission, 321
Minnesota Dept. of Economic Development, 63, 265, 327, 373, 475, 489
Missouri Division of Tourism, 44, 46, 57, 75, 97, 109, 256, 257, 262, 264, 334, 427, 465
National Archives
National Hot Air Championship, 36
National Park Service, 214
National Portrait Gallery 143, 483
New York Historical Society, 65
New York Public Library, 125, 467
Northwestern University Library
Ohio Dept. of Economic Devel., 70, 103, 118, 180, 196, 203, 205, 208, 361, 376, 426
Ohio Historical Society
Owensboro-Daviess County Chamber of Commerce
State of Kentucky Dept. of Public Information, 53
State of Louisiana Office of Tourism,
U.S. Army, 154
U.S. Postal Service, Stamp Division, 127
U.S.D.I., Fish and Wildlife Service, 18
Univ. of Mich., W.L. Clements Library, 106, 397
University of Iowa, 252
Virginia State Library, 96
West Point Museum, 429
Wisconsin Division of Tourism, 151, 258, 287, 296

INTRODUCTION

Methodology

The *Encyclopedia of the Midwest* follows the usual alphabetical arrangement, presenting information of the widest variety, focused on the eight states selected by the author as comprising that region. The states are Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Ohio and Wisconsin.

Geographers and historians fail to agree on their selection of Midwest states. The selection here is based on various factors of geography, such as the demarcation of rivers; on economy, particularly of agriculture in the case of the Midwest; and on historical and chronological considerations, among others. The varying interpretations of these factors account for the wide disparity of opinion in the selection of the states which belong in the Midwest.

The encyclopedic format of the work has been expanded to reflect the author's experience, developed over more than fifty years in writing about the states. Retaining its encyclopedic form in every sense, the work is intended also to enhance both the reader-interest and variety of the reference materials by the inclusion of types of information and methods of presentation not usually found in such a work. The addition of incidents, anecdotes and other items of human interest is intended to provide a new dimension to the encyclopedia.

The intent has been not only to present the widest possible body of reference material on the Midwest but also to offer a readable work, one to be dipped into for enjoyment as well as information.

Content

Content of the work is concentrated on the individual region involved. Every entry has been designed to meet this focus and to set the work apart from works which are readily available in general references. The *Encyclopedia of the Midwest* performs as a useful supplement to atlases, gazetteers, almanacs and condensed biographies—reference works

which because of space limitations cannot devote broad attention to a particular subject within a specialized field, such as the Midwest.

Such a framework assures a greater volume of entries on the region and permits the inclusion of the more localized subject matter not provided elsewhere.

For example, the article on Jefferson Davis, President of the Confederate States, is not intended as a full-fledged biography such as may be found in more general reference works and in entire volumes dedicated to the subject. Rather, the entry on Davis in this volume is devoted to the period of, and episodes, in his life in the Midwest. Such detail often cannot be included in short general biographies. In this case such coverage can be told briefly but in a way which emphasizes the importance of the biographies in the region.

Through such specialization, the student has access to many lesser-known details about a subject, which may prove rewarding for further investigation.

Treatment of natives of the eight Midwest states is somewhat more detailed, in consideration of their indigeneity.

A word must be said here concerning the tendency of some scholars to equate quality with volume of material. The length of an entry in this work is not intended to indicate that one entry is necessarily either more or less important than a similar entry. Again, the emphasis and length of the content depend on both the relationship of the material to the region and the addition of any unique quality or qualities a given entry is thought to possess, particularly if the information given is not readily available in other references.

Illustrations

The selection of illustrations for this volume has not been based upon iconography alone. While indeed the inclusion of

many illustrations has been designed to emphasize the theme or importance of an existing entry, there have been other considerations in selection. Some illustrations do stand alone without reference to any other entries. These have been provided not only for visual variety and interest but also to add subject matter. Any illustration which is not related otherwise to the text will be treated as a separate entry in the caption describing it.

Further dimension is added to the work through the inclusion of archival illustrations. The regional emphasis permits use of lesser-known portraits, paintings, prints and others not generally found outside the region.

Coverage

Content is designed to cover the whole range of subject matter germane to the region, including aspects of:

Geology

Geography

History

Anthropology

Natural History

Economy

Biography

Academic Institutions

Cultural Institutions

Political, Social and Religious Concerns

Government

Education

Tourism

A brief summary of facts and statistics precedes each state entry as well as those of the larger cities of the eight states covered here.

Organization

Entries are in boldface type and are alphabetized after the comma, viz., **IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY** precedes **IOWA, UNIVERSITY OF**. Personalities are alphabetized by inverted name—**LINCOLN, Abraham**. However, institutions named for individuals are not inverted—**GEORGE WASHINGTON CARVER NATIONAL MONUMENT**. Titled personalities are listed in the manner of most frequent usage, as, **La SALLE, Sieur de** (Robert Cavelier), not Cavelier, Robert (Sieur de La Salle).

Subjects alluded to in one entry are often covered in more depth or in a different manner in other entries. As a help in directing readers to related entries, these are indicated within the text by the use of small capital letters, as, **AGRICULTURE**.

As an additional aid, a brief bibliography is included, providing reference to frequently recommended books covering the region in more depth.

Detroit, Michigan, oldest city in the Midwest, is symbolic of the region, its industries, its varied peoples and its culture.





ABOLITION MOVEMENT. Organized attempt to outlaw SLAVERY as a legal institution, relying on means ranging from philosophical debate to outright and illegal violence. In the East, protests against slavery began with the Quakers as early as 1688 and reached crusading proportions in the 1830s, about the time that strong anti-slavery sentiment also came into prominence in the Midwest. There, as in the rest of the country, the response was both philosophical and practical. Some believed only in "moral suasion," while others were determined that political action would lead to abolition of slavery; eventually, many turned to violence and lawlessness to win their goals.

A number of Midwest editors, writers, preachers and philosophers supported the moderate movement from the standpoint of morality.

Charles Osborn (1775-1850) published his important *Letters on American Slavery* in RIPLEY Ohio, in 1826. He strongly influenced the thought of the famous Abolitionist William Lloyd Garrison.

One of the earlier political conflicts over slavery resulted in the MISSOURI COMPROMISE (1820-1821). Until that time, the slave and free states were equal in number. The pro- and anti-slavery forces struggled to maintain that balance with a series of proposals and compromises that resulted in admitting Maine as a free state and Missouri as a slave state. One of the compromises required the Missouri constitution to be free of any clause that would abridge the rights of citizens of the United States. Senator Jesse B. Thomas of Illinois was one of the most important figures in the struggle to write the Missouri Compromise.

The murder by pro-slavery forces of Presbyterian minister Elijah P. Lovejoy (1802-37) in ALTON Illinois, where he published the radical Abolitionist paper *Alton Observer*, aroused widespread sympathy for leaders of the movement, both in the Midwest and throughout the North. This concern was greatly increased by the spellbinding oratory of Wendell Phillips (1811-1884) as he made the death of Lovejoy a national cause.

Nevertheless, the Midwest remained divided on the slavery issue and on how it should be addressed. The southern border states of the Midwest, and particularly in the areas nearest the borders, were torn with conflict about Abolition. The conflict was particularly strong in CINCINNATI, the leading border city. In many cases, families were torn apart, some supporting Abolition, others as violently opposed, some wishing to keep the conflict from becoming violent, with others feeling deeply that only action would be effective.

Because the Midwest lay on the line between the slavery of the South and the free states of the North, most of the Midwest states became heavily involved in the UNDERGROUND RAILROAD. In his house on the OHIO RIVER near Cincinnati, John RANKIN sheltered as many as twelve escaped slaves in a single night and personally aided more than 2,000 to escape to safety in Canada. Hundreds of whites and free blacks in the Midwest from, Ohio to Iowa, took part in the Underground Railroad movement.

There had been a fugitive slave law in the federal statutes since 1793, but it had received little attention. However, the increasing effectiveness of the Underground Railroad brought pro-slavery forces to call for urgent action, and Congress passed a tough Fugitive Slave Law as part of the Compromise of 1850. Not only were there stiff penalties for helping slaves to escape, but there also were provisions making it a crime for refusing to assist in the capture of escaped slaves.

This inflamed much of the North, and state laws were passed which appeared to run counter to the federal orders.

One of the most celebrated cases in which the Fugitive Slave Law was involved concerned Abolitionist Sherman M. BOOTH of RACINE, Wisconsin, who aided escaped slave Joshua Glover. The prosecution of Booth for violating the Fugitive Slave Law brought the federal and state courts into a classic disagreement over constitutional law. In 1854 the Wisconsin Supreme Court had declared the Fugitive Slave Law unconstitutional, and Booth was freed. However, in a shattering precedent, the U.S.

Abolition



Michigan's 24 Regiment played a prominent part in the Battle of Gettysburg. Painting by Robert Thom, copyright 1967 Mich. Bell Telephone Co.

Supreme Court on March 7, 1859, denied the right of a state to interfere in a federal case, and upheld the constitutionality of the law. The Wisconsin legislature then adopted a resolution defending state sovereignty, and controversy continued.

The entire Compromise of 1850 generally offended the Abolitionists, since it was designed to give the South equal opportunities in the new territories of the Southwest. This question was addressed in an even more inflammatory way by the Kansas-Nebraska Act of 1854. These territories were given the opportunity to choose between entering the Union as free or slave states. This set the stage for the most dramatic of all the pre-Civil War conflicts between the slavery supporters and the Abolitionists. It was assumed that Nebraska would be a free state, but Kansas was undecided, so both sides sent settlers to Kansas, where such violence erupted that the territory became known as "Bleeding Kansas." The violence continued to mount until Kansas became a free state at the beginning of the CIVIL WAR.

A key figure in the battle for Kansas was one of the most radical of them all, JOHN BROWN, former Cincinnati wool merchant, who had emerged as the symbol of militant opposition to slavery. He trained many of his Abolitionist "troops" at his headquarters at SPRINGDALE and TABOR, Iowa, where he operated stations on the Underground Railroad. His forays into Kansas increased the misery of "bleeding Kansas." His career ended with his capture of the arsenal at Harpers Ferry, then in Virginia, marking a peak of Abolitionist fervor. Cleveland Abolitionists aided in his trial for treason. With his execution, Brown became a martyr to his cause and a symbol of the anti-slavery movement.

The more moderate Abolitionists in Michigan, Wisconsin and Illinois were so dissatisfied with the existing political parties that in 1854-1856 a REPUBLICAN PARTY was established separately in each of those states to oppose the Democrats, who were seen as supporters of slavery. Each state now claims to have been the birthplace of the Republican Party.

With the DRED SCOTT DECISION (1856-1857) by

the U.S. Supreme Court, many Abolitionists concluded that peaceful means were hopeless. However, the Republican Party became the hope of many others, and with the split in the Democratic Party between North and South, in the election of 1860, the Republicans were able to elect Abraham LINCOLN of Illinois, who would become the key figure in the great struggle to follow.

Several women with Midwest associations were significant figures in Abolitionist achievement. Harriet Beecher STOWE had grown to understand and deplore slavery during her years in Cincinnati, Ohio. Her *Uncle Tom's Cabin* (1852) has been cited as one of the major influences in the Abolitionist Movement and in bringing on the Civil War.

Even distant Minnesota produced one of the major Abolitionist voices. Jane Gray SWISSHELM of ST. CLOUD published a widely known newspaper opposing slavery.

Although not a Midwesterner by birth, one of the most remarkable of the Abolitionists, Sojourner TRUTH, made her last home in BATTLE CREEK, Michigan, where she died in 1883. Born in 1797(?) in New York State, she was emancipated with the passage of the New York Emancipation Act in 1827. She became an evangelist, preaching against slavery and for woman suffrage. In the Midwest her voice was heard in Illinois, Indiana and Ohio, all responding to her remarkable power as a preacher.

Historians disagree on the extent to which the Abolitionist movement actually succeeded in bringing about the eventual end of slavery. However, there is little doubt that few political movements have conveyed the high moral purpose and commitment of the Abolitionists, whatever may have been the faults of the methods of some. Their constant and growing pressure eventually made slavery the most important political, social and moral question facing the country. The vigorous Abolitionist actions undoubtedly had hastened the onset of the Civil War. A number of anti-slavery people of the North felt that less hot-blooded action might have led to peaceful settlement of the slavery problem, but slavery might have dragged on for years or even decades without the furor of the Abolitionists. Then, perhaps, war might still have been inevitable.

ACKLEY, Iowa. City (pop. 1,794). About thirty miles west of WATERLOO, Iowa, in the north central part of the state, situated near the meeting of Grundy, Butler, Franklin and

Hardin counties, on U.S. highway 20. It is a thriving center of one of the world's best agricultural areas. Known for its various auctions and fairs, the city has become widely prominent for its annual Sauerkraut Day, perhaps the only one of its kind, providing free sauerkraut, sausage and entertainment.

ADAMS, Cuyler. (Canton, IL, Aug. 20, 1852—Duluth, MN, Nov. 29, 1932). Mining engineer, developer of the CUYUNA RANGE, Minnesota. Adams journeyed to Minnesota in 1870 as an employee of the Northern Pacific Railroad. After exploring and developing mining properties in Ontario, Canada, in the latter half of the 19th Century, he returned to Minnesota. There he discovered the Cuyuna Iron Range, where he began production in 1911. In a sense the range was named for his dog, Una. Cuyler took the first three letters of his first name and added the name of his dog to arrive at Cuyuna. The Cuyuna was the last of the great Minnesota ranges to be discovered and developed.

ADDAMS, Jane. (Cedarville, IL, September 6, 1860—Chicago, IL, May 21, 1935). Settlement worker, founder of Hull House settlement in CHICAGO. After graduation from Rockford College, she attended Woman's Medical College in Philadelphia until failing health caused her to leave in 1882. Visiting Europe to improve her health in 1887-88 she became interested in the British settlement houses and studied settlement work abroad. Inspired by the movement to help the urban poor and with a special interest in the problems of immigrants, Jane Addams returned to Illinois and founded Hull House in Chicago in 1889. There the working poor could leave their children for care and instruction, and adults could come together for study and socialization. Her affection for children, her tact in working with rich and poor alike and her overriding impulse to help soon earned the respect and help of many Chicagoans. She was particularly adept at enlisting the assistance of talented women who worked with her. By 1905 she had built a fine plant and was acknowledged to have created by far the finest facilities and program in the U.S. for working class education and recreation. Her cultural program included the Hull House Players, a music school and a labor museum. Many of Chicago's talented artists, musicians and scholars assisted in her work. Addams made Hull House the most famous settlement house in the world. Her many books helped to bring her work to public attention. The best

known of these was *Twenty Years at Hull House* (1910). She later branched out to aid the woman suffrage movement and causes for world peace. A recipient of the Nobel Peace Prize in 1931, Addams was accepted as one of the greatest women of her times, receiving numerous other honors.

ADE, George. (Kentland, IN, February 9, 1866—Brook, IN, May 16, 1944). Playwright and humorist. Ade joined the staff of the *Chicago Record* in 1890. His column, done with John T. MC CUTCHEON, was given the title *Fables in Slang* in 1899. Eleven volumes written by Ade gently pointed out follies and foibles of his peers. Many have considered his work to be master portraits of the common man. He was especially praised for his masterful use of the vernacular. As a playwright Ade once had three plays in New York running simultaneously. He also wrote a number of motion picture scripts. In 1936 Ade wrote the popular book, *The Old Time Saloon*.

ADENA PEOPLE. Prehistoric peoples, remains discovered at Adena Estate, near ADENA, Ohio. In 1901 the Ohio estate of Thomas WORTHINGTON was the scene of an exciting archeological discovery. Workers at Adena were converting it to a museum when they uncovered a log building, apparently used as a tomb by a prehistoric people. Skeletons, ornaments and weapons were found. The culture first discovered at Adena was given the name of the estate. Evidences of Adena Culture have been found in various parts of Ohio and Indiana. Adena culture is characterized by great conical piles of earth often arranged in triangular groups and placed close to streams. As in the FORT ANCIENT CULTURE, there are no sacred enclosures in the Adena culture. However, as in the following HOPEWELL CULTURE, ornaments of mica and copper, beads and skillful weaving have been found along with artistic carvings in stone and bone. The mound at Miamisburg, Ohio, is the largest of the culture yet found. It reaches a height of 68 feet. Some scholars contend that the Adena and Hopewell cultures should be considered as identical. Others have thought them to be two separate groups.

The skeletons of the Adena people add to their mystery. The round skulls were different from the long skulls of other prehistoric people known in the area. They must have been almost a race of giants, with women over six feet tall and men nearly seven feet in height. It is

thought they forced their way into the OHIO RIVER Valley from somewhere else about 3000 years ago, but no one is certain of their earlier origin, perhaps from Mexico, where some similar customs were known. One of their greatest achievements was in their effigy mounds. The great SERPENT MOUND near CINCINNATI is one of the premier accomplishments of early peoples anywhere on earth. This earthen mound squirms across the countryside for a quarter of a mile, with a width up to thirty feet. The mouth appears to be swallowing an egg. The engineering skills required to achieve such perfection over such an area would be enough to tax many modern designers, and evidences of other skilled craftsmanship are equally striking. Perhaps about 2,400 years ago the equally mysterious Hopewell People had begun to drive a wedge of settlement into the Adena areas. The Adena culture began to decline and the Hopewell to rise to extraordinary heights.

ADENA STATE MEMORIAL. The estate of Thomas WORTHINGTON, near CHILLICOTHE, Ohio, was donated to the state and restored as Adena State Memorial. In 1803 the estate was the scene of meeting called by Worthington at his handsome new home, Adena. Those assembled beside Worthington included William Creighton, secretary of the new state of Ohio, and the new governor, Edward Tiffin. These men were the leaders of the group that called for statehood. They had many difficult problems to discuss and worked through the night. In early morning the group had agreed on most of the solutions to their problems. When they went out to the terrace, the sun was just rising over Mount Logan to the east. Creighton, as secretary of state, had used his own seal because the state had not adopted one. The group was so impressed with the scene that Creighton proposed to use it for the future Ohio state seal, and that scene is still the one used on the seal today. The estate is open to visitors and provides ample evidence of the good life which could be attained even in early pioneer days.

ADENA, Ohio. Town (pop. 1,062), farming community near CHILLICOTHE. It grew up around Adena, the estate of Thomas WORTHINGTON, in the early 1800s. The town took the estate's name, which is derived from the Hebrew *adena* meaning "a name given to places remarkable for the delightfulness of their situations." This site of the ADENA STATE MEMORIAL preserves the Worthington estate.

ADRIAN, Michigan. City (pop. 21,186), seat of Lenawee County, southeastern Michigan on the Lower Peninsula, southwest of ANN ARBOR. Adrian was founded in 1826 by Addison J. Comstock. With his father, Darius, Comstock built the first railroad west of Schenectady, N. Y., and extended to Adrian between 1832 and 1836. The railroad was first operated with horses until a locomotive was obtained in 1837. Adrian is a prosperous small college town and an agricultural and industrial center. An impressive historical district contains seventy-nine homes of many architectural styles. The homes, privately owned, are open during special tours in September.

AGASSIZ, Lake. Prehistoric lake named in honor of naturalist and glacial expert, Louis Agassiz. Lake Agassiz covered much of present northwest Minnesota, northeast North Dakota and large portions of Canada.

AGRICULTURE. The bounty of food, fiber and livestock flowing from the Midwest equals nearly a third of the entire U.S. total value—a third of the entire agricultural income of the world's leading agricultural nation. In 1984 the

total value of U.S. agricultural products was \$136,000,000. Of this, the Midwest produced \$41,469,000,000.

Although most crops can be, and are, grown in the region, the Midwest concentrates on corn and soybeans, providing the world's greatest production of feed and food materials. This invaluable supply of feed has enabled the Midwest to zero in on livestock, both for market and for dairy products.

For years Iowa led all the other states in value of agricultural production. However, with their high priced specialty products, California and Texas have surpassed Iowa in dollar value.

In total value of agricultural products, in 1984 Iowa dropped to third place behind California and very slightly behind Texas. Illinois is fifth in the nation and Minnesota sixth.

In the Midwest, Iowa's lead is far ahead of second place Illinois, with Minnesota a close third to Illinois. Michigan ranks last among the Midwest agricultural states. Iowa leads the nation and the world in corn production, followed by Illinois, second, and Indiana, third. Missouri produces the least corn of the Midwest states. In 1984 Illinois ranked first in

Farm and city combine in this Iowa scene near Des Moines.



Air Mail - Akron

soybeans, leading both the nation and the Midwest in that vastly important category. Iowa was second in 1984 in both the nation and the Midwest, but the two states historically have alternated rank in soybean production. Wisconsin is not ranked in soybean production. Iowa produces two and a half times as many hogs as any other state—far and away the world leader in production of meat animals. Even in cattle production Iowa ranks fourth in the nation as well as first in the Midwest. Illinois is a distant second in Midwest cattle, with Missouri and Wisconsin third and fourth. However, Wisconsin is by far the U.S. leader in dairy products, with California a distant second. Minnesota is a very distant second to Wisconsin in Midwest dairy production and value. Minnesota ranks second in the U.S. in turkey production, and Indiana holds second place in the nation in production of chickens. Missouri is the only Midwest state to produce cotton, ranking last in the nation in that crop. Although not among the top wheat states, five Midwest states, Illinois, Indiana, Michigan, Minnesota and Ohio, produce substantial volumes of wheat. Only Michigan, Minnesota and Wisconsin are ranked in the production of potatoes.

The Midwest's state's agricultural production (in billions of dollars), with their principal agricultural products (1984):

Iowa—9,312, Hogs, corn, soybeans, dairy products

Illinois—6,738, Corn, soybeans, hogs, cattle

Minnesota—6,242, Dairy products, soybeans, corn, cattle

Wisconsin—5,136, Dairy products, cattle, corn, hogs

Indiana—3,924, Corn, soybeans, hogs, dairy products

Missouri—3,729, Cattle, soybeans, hogs, dairy products

Ohio—3,611, Soybeans, dairy products, corn, hogs

Michigan—2,777, Dairy products, corn, cattle, soybeans

AIR MAIL. First flights. Airmail may be said to have originated in two flights from Iowa. In 1912 pioneer aviator Lincoln Beachy was made a deputy postmaster by the postmaster at DUBUQUE. He took off from the Dubuque fairgrounds, circled over the city and dropped a special sack of mail in front of a local hotel. Two years later another pioneer Iowa aviator, William "Billy" ROBINSON of GRINNELL, was authorized to fly mail from DES MOINES to

CHICAGO. He overshot his mark and landed at Kentland, Indiana, which also made a new record for a cross country flight—a total of 362 miles.

AKINS, Zoe. (Humansville, MO, October 30, 1886—Los Angeles, CA, Oct. 29, 1958). Author, poet, U.S. dramatist, screen writer. Akins won the PULITZER PRIZE in 1935 for her play *The Old Maid*. This and several of Akins' non-dramatic works, including *The Morning Glory*, were adapted for audiences. This work also became a motion picture in 1932. She wrote the screenplay based on Edna FERBER's *Showboat*. Her poetry included *Interpretations* (1911) and *The Hills Grow Smaller* (1937).

AKRON, Ohio. City (pop. 227,177), seat of Summit County, situated on the Little Cuyahoga River in northeast Ohio. Suburban communities include CUYAHOGA FALLS and BARBERTON. The city occupies an area of 60.2 square miles. The city name is derived from the Greek word meaning summit, used in the U.S. to indicate a position on a ridge or high point. With capital of \$1,000 each from 19 Akron men, Benjamin Franklin GOODRICH established the Goodrich company in 1870. He had discovered a means of strengthening rubber, now called vulcanizing. Much of the success of Akron in the rubber field would be dependent on that process. Other rubber companies followed, and Akron became the world center of the RUBBER industry, producing almost every type of rubber product. These have included the dirigibles *Akron* and *Macon* and the famed Goodyear blimps.

Settlement in the area began slowly about 1807. Akron itself was laid out by Major Minor Spicer in 1825. He and his associates anticipated the coming of the OHIO AND ERIE CANAL in 1827, and the first packet on the canal was launched at Akron that year. The Canal spurred the community's growth, which was further stimulated by Akron's being named the county seat in 1842 and by the coming of the railroads.

Today, in addition to rubber, manufactures include plastics, missiles, fishing tackle, and heavy machinery. In the period from 1970 to 1984 the population declined slightly from 275,000 to 227,000. In racial composition the city's black population is 22.2 percent. Higher education is represented by the University of Akron, and the major industry is enhanced by the work of the Institute of Rubber Research. Community culture is based on a music center, symphony orchestra and an art institute,

among other institutions and activities. Abolitionist leader John BROWN lived in the city from 1844 to 1846, and his house there has been preserved as a museum. One of the principal points of interest is the vast dirigible airdock, one of the world's largest structures without internal support. A unique annual event has enlivened city activities. The famous SOAP BOX DERBY's national finals have brought thousands of boys and girls to the specially built sloping track at Derby Downs. Their homemade motorless cars compete in a race for valuable scholarships.

ALBERT LEA, Minnesota. City (pop. 19,190), southeastern Minnesota, west of AUSTIN, one of the early railroad towns on the Southern Minnesota Railroad, major packing and food-processing center. Albert Lea is named for a lieutenant who published a journal and maps of the region based upon his participation on an 1835 expedition into Minnesota. In 1856 many settlers were confronted with one of the worst winters on record. Those who left in the spring, however, were replaced by large numbers of new pioneers who developed one of the most successful agricultural operations of the period. By the 1860s Albert Lea was linked to the MISSISSIPPI RIVER by the Southern Minnesota Railroad. Shipments of wheat could now easily be made to the elevators being built along the tracks. Today the city manufactures road machinery, beverages and dairy products. Albert Lea Lake is the headwaters of the Shell Rock River. On the northeast side of the lake is the Helmer Myre State Park containing 1,500 acres of prairie land and a wooded lake island. The Owen Johnson Interpretative Center, located in the park, has a large collection of Indian artifacts.

ALBERT, Eddie. (Rock Island, IL, April 22, 1908—). Character actor. Albert, whose name was originally Eddie Albert Heimberger, has been noted for playing honest guy roles in motion pictures, radio plays and on the stage. Among his credits are roles in *Brother Rat* (1938), *An Angel from Texas* (1940), *The Wagons Roll at Night* (1941), *Strange Voyage* (1945), *The Longest Day* (1962), *Miracle of the White Stallions* (1965), and a starring role in the television series *Green Acres* from 1965 to 1970. Albert is a frequent guest star and spokesman for conservation groups.

ALBION, Michigan. City (pop. 11,059), in Calhoun County, south-central Michigan on

the Lower Peninsula at the forks of the Kalamazoo River. Albion College was founded there in 1835. Albion was incorporated in 1855. An industrial community, it produces wire, heaters, electronic parts, air conditioners and bakery ovens. At Albion College the song "Sweetheart of Sigma Chi" was composed in 1911. A century old grist mill has been converted as True Grist Dinner Theater. Festival of the Forks is the community's annual event. The area is noted for its many lakes.

ALEXANDRIA, Minnesota. City (pop. 7,608), seat of Douglas County in west-central Minnesota, northeast of ST. CLOUD. Alexander and William Kincaid moved to the area along the shores of Lake Agnes in 1858. Other settlers soon followed and a community was formed and named Alexandria in honor of Alexander Kincaid. A townsite company erected a log hotel named the Gregory which became a favorite gathering place for settlers. In 1859 a trail was cut through the woods to connect St. Cloud and BRECKENRIDGE. The present path of Interstate 94 follows this route. With the completion of the trail, Alexandria became a convenient stopping place and has been a popular fishing and resort area. It was incorporated in 1877. The economy is based on light manufacturing, agriculture and tourism. There are 200 lakes in the vicinity. Fort Alexandria Agricultural Museum displays life in the 19th and early 20th centuries. The Runestone Museum contains the KENSINGTON RUNESTONE found on the farm of Olaf Ohman in 1898. Viking implements claimed to be of the 14th century, pioneer and Indian artifacts are displayed.

ALGOMA, Wisconsin. Town (pop. 3,856), situated in Kewaunee County on the shores of Lake MICHIGAN. Algoma is surrounded by hills which taper down to the line of sandy beach. Its name actually comes from the Indian word meaning sandy place. The community was settled in 1818. Algoma is home to the largest hardwood-manufacturing operation in the country. Plywood and veneers are produced there. Dairy products are also important. Visitors enjoy the tour of the Von Stiehl Winery and the Kewaunee County Historical Museum and Old Jail.

ALGONQUIN LANGUAGE GROUP. The Algonquin are the most varied and most widely distributed and perhaps the most historically important of the Indian peoples of North

Allison - Altenburg

America. They had dealings with the early European colonists almost as soon as the latter arrived. They were the first Indian peoples to make friends with the French in the north, and the settlers of Jamestown had to deal with the great confederation of King Powhatan, also of the language group. The various tribes extended from coast to coast.

Some version of the Algonquian language is native to nearly 80,000 present day Indians in the United States and Canada. At one time the language had over 50 different tribal variations.

In the Midwest the Algonquin were the most numerous and held the largest part of the territory. In the region, only the Winnebago were neither Algonquian nor Iroquoian in tongue.

Prominent Midwest Algonquin tribes included the MENOMINEE, OTTAWA, POTAWATOMI, OJIBWAY, FOX, SAUK, ILLINI and MIAMI, the latter probably the most numerous in the region.

The Algonquian groups generally sided with the French, and so in many cases were treated more harshly when control of the region finally came to the British. As population of the region increased, they were forced to give up their lands by treaty and were gradually moved to the west. After the BLACK HAWK WAR of 1832, most of the Algonquian tribes had been removed. However, they left a lasting legacy in the language, including such words as hominy, hickory, tomahawk, wigwam, woodchuck, terrapin, moccasin and hundreds of Midwest place names such as Wapsipinicon.

ALLISON, William Boyd. (Perry Township, OH, Mar. 1, 1829—Dubuque, IA, Aug. 4, 1908). U.S. Senator from 1903 to 1908, he had also served earlier terms in the House (1863-1871). Allison was one of the most influential Republican politicians of his time. He missed the nomination for president by only one vote during the Republican convention of 1888. Although a political moderate he was outspoken in promoting the farming interests of the Midwest, especially in opposing tariffs harmful to farmers. He modified the free coinage of silver in the Bland-Allison Act. Allison served Iowa in national politics longer than any other officeholder, from 1863 until his death.

ALLOUEZ, Father Claude. (Saint Didier, Haute Loire, France, June 6, 1622—Niles, MI, Aug. 22, 1689). Priest and missionary. In 1663 Allouez became the vicar general of all Indians and traders in the NORTHWEST TERRITORY. He made a missionary tour of the missions in the

area between 1667-1669 when he traveled among the POTAWATOMI Indians near GREEN BAY, Wisconsin. Allouez served as a missionary to the Outagami tribe in 1670, the year he established St. Mark's Mission and the mission of St. James among the MIAMI and MASCOUTEN tribes. He returned to the Green Bay missions in 1670. Allouez continued to work among the Indians by establishing the Mission of Rapids des Peres (now De Pere, Wisconsin) on the FOX RIVER in 1671 and a mission among the ILLINI Indians around KASKASKIA from 1677 to 1689.

ALMA, Michigan. City (pop. 9,700), Gratiot County, west of SAGINAW on Michigan's Lower Peninsula. Alma College was founded there in 1886. Alma is located near the geographical center of Michigan and hosts an annual Scottish Highland Festival and Games in late May. One of the most nearly complete and authentic of the Scottish games in the U.S., the Alma Festival has brought as many as 300,000 spectators to this small community.

ALPENA, Michigan. City (pop. 12,214), seat of Alpena County, northeastern coast of Michigan's Lower Peninsula on Lake HURON's Thunder Bay. Settled in 1854 at the head of Thunder Bay, Alpena has been known as the home of the world's largest cement plant. The lumber industry prospered until the end of the nineteenth century, and Alpena is now known for its limestone quarries and beverage and paper industries. Near the city are natural sinkholes, some more than 150 feet deep, which are caused by the sinking of the limestone crust into caverns formed by underground streams.

ALTENBURG, Missouri. Village (pop. 280), eastern Missouri in Perry County, southeast of Perryville. It was named by its settlers for Altenburg, Germany. Now a quiet farming community, Altenburg had an interesting history. It is one of six Perry County communities settled in 1839 by Saxon Lutherans. From a communal fund of just over nine thousand dollars, 4,472 acres were purchased. The land had to be cleared of timber by the settlers who, as students or professional men, were unused to hard physical labor. The citizens of Altenburg made their homes of half-timbered, neatly plastered walls covered by roofs of red tile made in local kilns. They established Concordia Seminary, the first evangelical Lutheran seminary west of the Mississippi, in a square, one-story log building dedicated on December 9, 1839.

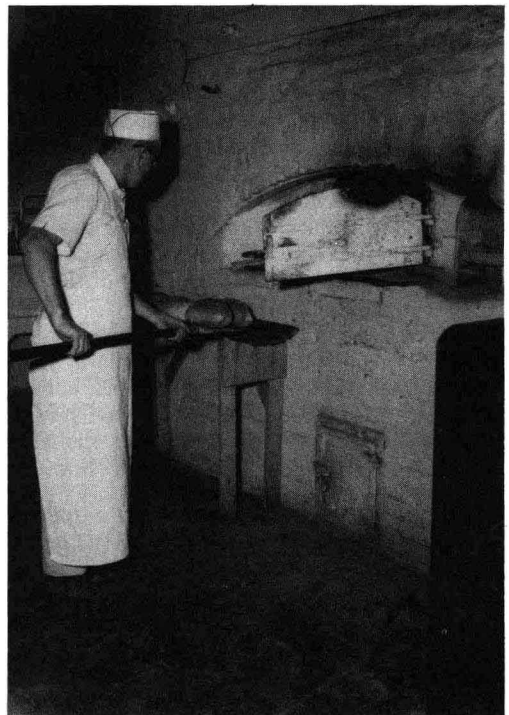
ALTGELD, John Peter. (Niederselters, Germany, 1847—Joliet, IL, March 12, 1902). Illinois governor. Altgeld, a lawyer, was a county superior court judge from 1886 to 1891, before his election, in 1892, as the first foreign-born Democratic Illinois governor in thirty-six years. His pardon on June 26, 1892, of three men convicted of a bombing during the HAYMARKET RIOT in 1886 was controversial, but his administration, from 1892 to 1896, continued to champion liberal causes. Altgeld supported important labor legislation. Illinois' first legislative session with Altgeld as governor passed a strong factory inspection statute which regulated employment conditions for women and for children under fourteen years of age. Altgeld sponsored an amendment in 1893 which would have given the legislature the right to regulate relations between management and labor. In a referendum the amendment fell short of the necessary majority. On July 5, 1894, Altgeld protested President Cleveland's dispatch of federal troops from FORT SHERIDAN to end the Pullman Strike of the American Railway Union under the leadership of Eugene DEBS. In 1895 Illinois created a state board of arbitration to settle labor disputes. Altgeld's administration provided CHICAGO with better police courts, raised corporate and inheritance taxes, and provided the rights of parole and probation to prisoners. Ambitious for political power, Altgeld dismissed many career executives who had been appointed under Republican governors, replacing them with his own followers. Although he was denounced as a radical in his own day, he later became known as a champion of individual rights against entrenched power.

ALTON, Illinois. City (pop. 34,171), Madison Co., southwestern Illinois, north of East St. Louis, near the MISSISSIPPI RIVER, named for one of the sons of Colonel Rufus Easton, planner of the downtown area. Alton was founded in 1816. Platted in 1818 as a steamboat landing, Alton benefitted from superior quality limestone and outcroppings of coal which added to the value of the nearby land. During the 1830s Alton grew as a steamboat and packing center. Commercially the city competed with St. Louis and hoped to be the western terminal of the NATIONAL ROAD at the Mississippi River. In light balloting in 1834, Alton was nearly chosen the site of the new state capital. As the largest Illinois city on the Mississippi, Alton was the terminus of three railroads. In 1846 railroad workmen at Alton completed the destruction of

the original fearsome PIAZA BIRD (Thunderbird), painted by unknown prehistoric peoples, when they blasted apart the cliffs on which it had been painted, to provide ballast for the first railroad southwest of CHICAGO. Alton served as a station on the UNDERGROUND RAILROAD before the CIVIL WAR, but witnessed publically the murder, on November 7, 1837, of the early Abolitionist Elijah Lovejoy by a mob whose leaders went unpunished. The community hosted the LINCOLN-DOUGLAS DEBATE of October 15, 1858. In 1890 Alton was one of twenty Illinois cities with a population over ten thousand. Today it is the site of the largest bottle and glass container manufacturing plant in the United States. There also are oil refineries, foundries and flour mills. Limestone quarrying still adds to the economy. The Alton Museum of History and Art features the city's history and river heritage.

AMANA COLONIES. A group of seven communities southwest of CEDAR RAPIDS on the IOWA RIVER. The Amanas were founded by about 800 members of a German religious communal group known as the Community of True

Baking bread in the Amana Colonies.



American Fur Company - Anderson

Inspiration, a name taken from the German *Workzeuge*, "Inspired Prophets." The settlers came from their former colony near Buffalo, New York, and settled in Iowa County, with the first Amana founded in 1855 on the 25,000 acres of Iowa prairie which had been bought by the group. Seven villages developed, each self-supporting, providing an eighth grade education, slaughterhouse, bakery, icehouse, general store, farm department and church, along with selected workshops and factories. Amana was perhaps the most successful of all the many communal groups settled in the U.S. Their farms produced abundantly; their woolen mills and furniture factories continued to manufacture quality goods of wide distribution, and the organization was noted for its cradle-to-grave care of all of its members, who shared according to need in all property and concerns of the group. Housing was assigned by the elders. Meals were prepared in large kitchens and served communally. Each member was given a credit allowance based "according to justice and equity," from which each could purchase at the general store.

Today community ownership has changed to stock interest, but the region continues to prosper with its refrigerators, freezers, air conditioners and other refrigeration products now known all over the world. The business had a modest start in the 1930s when Amanaites George Foerstner was asked to build a beverage cooler. He not only did so but began to build a general business in various fields of refrigeration. In 1936 the Society bought Foerstner's interest. In 1950 the Society sold the business back to him for \$1,500,000. Moving into different fields, Foerstner developed the radar range and continued to expand in refrigeration, with marketing and advertising skills developing the company's reputation as one of the best known of its type in the world.

The Amana villages provide probably the greatest single tourist attraction in the state, pulling visitors from both near and abroad, attracted by the noted farm-style food service, the local crafts, wines (especially rhubarb), foodstuffs and finely hand-crafted furniture made of the finest hard woods.

AMERICAN FUR COMPANY. Chartered by John Jacob ASTOR in 1808 to compete with the great fur trading companies of Canada. His early operations around the GREAT LAKES were known as the South West Company, in which Canadian associates took part. In 1821 an alliance with CHOUTEAU interests gave the

company a monopoly in the Missouri River region. One of the first of the great trusts, it ruthlessly crushed all opposition. After Astor withdrew in 1834, the name continued. As workers were brought in to the trading posts and as others followed, the posts became the nucleus of many settlements. In this way the company played a significant role in opening up the western Midwestern lands for settlement. One of the most successful representatives of the company was Hercules DOUSMAN, who built VILLA LOUIS in PRAIRIE DU CHIEN, Wisconsin.

AMES, Iowa. City (pop. 45,775). Situated on the SKUNK RIVER in Story County in the center of the state, the city was named for Oakes Ames, a Massachusetts politician-industrialist who had railroad interests in the area. Incorporated in 1870, Ames has an economy largely keyed to the noted IOWA STATE UNIVERSITY. Among the thirty-eight manufacturing plants, there are no major industries. Electronic equipment and water-analysis and water-treatment equipment are the local products. The university is usually considered to be pre-eminent in agricultural education and research. Particularly notable is the Iowa State Center, a complex of four buildings, achieved without any federal or state appropriations. The center includes an auditorium, coliseum, theater and the Brunner Art Gallery. Another attraction of the university is the Farm House, which may be considered the site of the founding of scientific agriculture under Dean James "Tama Jim" WILSON. It has been restored with period furnishings. The university's notable Horticultural Gardens are a teaching resource. The Grant WOOD murals in Parks Library are considered to be among that artist's finest works. Also of interest at Ames is the Iowa Arboretum. One of the major festivals on a university campus is the Iowa State Veishea Spring Festival, held in early May. There is also a Summerfest in mid July.

ANDERSON, Indiana. City (pop. 64,695), east-central Indiana seat of Madison County, located on the WHITE RIVER, name derived from an English translation of the name of a Delaware chief. Andersonville, as it was originally known, was platted in 1823, but experienced little growth until rumors of its proximity to the Indiana Central Canal encouraged new settlement. The canal never proved economical and it was not until the discovery of pockets of natural gas in the region, in 1865, that Anderson experienced an industrial boom. Today the auto industry is the principal