

## Wisconsin Biographies

Compiled by Eileen Snyder, November 2003

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This issue presents biographies of famous and infamous Wisconsinites. The titles are arranged into broad categories, though certainly some titles would fit into more than one category.

### Compilations

**Badger Saints and Sinners.** Fred L. Holmes, 1939. (977.5/H73c) “[T]hirty-two sketches of men and women who have woven their lives into the fabric of Wisconsin.” — p.9.

**Black Settlers in Rural Wisconsin.** Zachary Cooper, 1994. (HistS/b 1994) (noncirculating) A brief history of early black communities in Wisconsin. Includes photographs and a bibliography.

**Dictionary of Wisconsin Biography.** State Historical Society of Wisconsin, 1960. (Ref./920/W7) (noncirculating)

“A Gallery of Wisconsin Writers”. Jack Stark, *Wisconsin Academy Review*, June 1980, p.17-32. (977.5/St2) This article offers brief sketches about the lives of famous Wisconsin authors.

**Meet Your Neighbor.** Mary Gates Muggah, 1946. (977.5/M89) Brief biographical sketches of persons notable in Wisconsin history and activities.

**Portraits of Justice: The Wisconsin Supreme Court's First 150 Years.** Trina E. Gray, 2003, 2nd ed. (344.32/W7b1) Brief biographical sketches of all of Wisconsin's Supreme Court justices, from 1848 to 2003. Includes a bibliography.

**Wisconsin Lives of National Interest: Sketches of Some Prominent People Identified with the History of the Badger State.** William L. Crow, 1937. (920/C88) Brief sketches of the lives of famous Wisconsinites from the first 90 years of statehood.

### Public Servants

**Edwin E. Witte, Cautious Reformer.** Theron F. Schlabach, 1969. (920/Sch3) Biography of the former Wisconsin Legislative Reference Library Chief, “Father of Social Security”, and early Wisconsin Idea supporter.

**Emanuel L. Philipp: Wisconsin Stalwart.** Robert S. Maxwell, 1959. (920/M45) Philipp was governor from 1915-1921, and was a leader of the Stalwart faction of the Republican party.

**The Empty Sleeve: A Biography of Lucius Fairchild.** Sam Ross, 1964. (354.4/W752) A biography of the Civil War hero and Wisconsin governor.

**The Family Letters of Victor and Meta Berger: 1894-1929.** Michael E. Stevens, editor, 1995. (HistS/f) (noncirculating) The letters of the Socialist congressman and his wife, who was an activist and a regent of the University of Wisconsin.

**Henry Clay Payne: A Life.** William W. Wight, 1907. (977.5/W63) Biography of the Stalwart Republican who served as U.S. Postmaster General under Theodore Roosevelt.

**James Duane Doty: Frontier Promoter.** Alice Elizabeth Smith, 1954. (920/Sm5) Biography of the territorial governor and founder of Madison, Wisconsin.

**Joseph McCarthy: Reexamining the Life and Legacy of America's Most Hated Senator.** Arthur Herman, 2000. (328.145/H42) A new look at the life and work of Joseph McCarthy, “... who was often more right than wrong, and yet in the end did more harm than good.” — *dust jacket*.

**The Politics of Fear: Joseph R. McCarthy and the Senate.** Robert Griffith, 1987. (328.145/G87) The rise and fall of Joseph McCarthy.

**Pine Logs and Politics: A Life of Philetus Sawyer, 1816-1900.** Richard Nelson Current, 1950. (329.6/C93) Sawyer was a lumberman and politician. He served as U.S. Senator from Wisconsin as a Stalwart Republican from 1881-1893.

**Proxmire.** Jay G. Sykes, 1972. (328.144/Sy4) A biography of Senator William Proxmire, written in the middle of his career in the U.S. Senate.

**Senator Lenroot of Wisconsin: A Political Biography, 1900-1929.** Herbert F. Margulies, 1977. (920/M33) A biography of the career of the progressive senator.

**W.D. Hoard: A Man For His Time.** Loren H. Osman, 1985. (977.5/Os5) Hoard was a newspaperman, dairyman, politician, and served as Governor of Wisconsin from 1889-1891.

**When Government Was Good: Memories of a Life in Politics.** Henry S. Reuss, 1999. (328.144/R31) The author describes why he considers the years 1948-1968 the “golden age” of government. ⇒

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## Wisconsin Biographies Continued

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### La Follettes

*Adventure in Politics: The Memoirs of Philip La Follette.* Donald Young, editor, 1970. (329.83/L13) Philip La Follette's memoirs of his and his family's personal and political lives.

*Belle: The Biography of Belle Case La Follette.* Lucy Freeman, Sherry La Follette, and George A. Zabriskie, 1986. (329.81/F871) The life story of the political activist and wife of Robert La Follette, Sr.

*Fighting Bob La Follette: The Righteous Reformer.* Nancy C. Unger, 2000. (329.81/Un3a) A recent biography of Robert M. La Follette, Sr.

*The La Follettes of Wisconsin: Love and Politics in Progressive America.* Bernard A. Weisberger, 1994. (329.81/W43) Chronicles the lives of the La Follette family.

*Robert M. La Follette, Jr., and the Decline of the Progressive Party in Wisconsin.* Roger T. Johnson, 1964. (329.82/J63)

*Robert M. La Follette, Sr.: The Voice of Conscience.* Carl R. Burchardt, 1992. (329.81/B91) This biography of Robert M. La Follette, Sr. includes the texts of selected speeches made throughout his career.

*Robert M. La Follette and the Insurgent Spirit.* David P. Thelen, 1976. (329.81/T34a) A biography of Robert M. La Follette, Sr. based on his private papers.

"The Two Worlds of Belle Case La Follette". Nancy Unger, *Wisconsin Magazine of History*, Winter 1999-2000, vol.83, no.2, p. 82-109. (329.81/Un3)

*Young Bob: A Biography of Robert M. La Follette, Jr.* Patrick J. Maney, 2003, 2nd ed. (HistS/y) (noncirculating) Traces the career (spanning the time between Coolidge and the Cold War) of Robert M. La Follette, Jr.

### War Heroes

*Ace of Aces: The Dick Bong Story.* Carl Bong and Mike O'Connor, 1985. (920/B64) The story of the World War II fighter pilot.

*Resisting Hitler: Mildred Harnack and the Red Orchestra.* Shareen Blair Brysac, 2000. (920/B84) The story of an American woman, born in Milwaukee, who was executed in Berlin for resisting Hitler.

### Others

*Aldo Leopold: His Life and Work.* Curt Meine, 1988. (622/M47) A biography of Leopold, one of the nation's earliest and most influential conservationists.

*Aldo Leopold: The Man and His Legacy.* Thomas Tanner, editor, 1987. (622/T15) Academics, scientists, a governor, and Leopold's children discuss the impact of his "land ethic" on modern environmental ethics.

*Carl Schurz: Militant Liberal.* Joseph Schafer, 1930. (977.5/Sch1a) The story of the German-born anti-slavery activist and Lincoln supporter.

*Charles McCarthy, Librarianship and Reform.* Marion Casey, 1981. (Ref/328.21/C26a) (noncirculating) The life of the man who created the Wisconsin Legislative Reference Library (later called the Legislative Reference Bureau).

*DuBay: Son-in-Law of Oshkosh.* Merton E. Krug, 1946. (977.5/K93) The biography of John Baptiste DuBay, a frontiersman who was the son of a French fur trader and a Menominee Indian.

*The Fabulous Lunts: A Biography of Alfred Lunt and Lynn Fontanne.* Jared Brown, 1986. (920/B81) A biography of the famed Wisconsin film stars.

*Gordon MacQuarrie: The Story of an Old Duck Hunter.* Keith Crowley, 2003. (HistS/g) (noncirculating) The biography of America's first full-time, professional outdoor writer.

*In and Out of the Ivory Tower.* Harold M. Groves, 1969. (920/G91) Memoirs of the legislator and University of Wisconsin professor of public finance.

*McCarthy of Wisconsin.* Edward A. Fitzpatrick, 1944. (Ref./354/F58) (noncirculating) Biography of Charles McCarthy, creator of the Wisconsin Legislative Reference Library (later called the Legislative Reference Bureau).

*Old Abe the War Eagle: A True Story of the Civil War and Reconstruction.* Richard H. Zeitlin, 1986. (Ref./977.5/Ze3) (noncirculating) The story of the legendary mascot of the Eighth Regiment of Wisconsin Volunteer Infantry.

*Stephen Moulton Babcock: A Man of Science – A Memorial to Him in Observance of the Centenary of His Birth.* H.L. Russell, 1943. (614.37/W751) A pamphlet outlining Babcock's achievements at the University of Wisconsin.

**Clippings:** (Noncirculating; available for use in the library; clippings prior to 1981 are on microfiche)

Our extensive clippings collection, arranged by subject, includes newspaper clippings on many famous Wisconsinites, from legislators and congressmen to famous entertainers. Our index to biography clippings can help you find the ones you need. Stop by and peruse our collection!

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