This Issue
You will notice that this issue is a bit different in content. Although we maintain a subject index to Origins online via a database maintained by the staff of the Hekman Library (URL: http://www.calvin.edu/library/database/crcpi/), we receive requests for paper copies of the index specifically for Origins. In this issue you will find a subject index for the first twenty volumes. Because it is an on-line index, we have followed the Library of Congress protocols for headings and citations in this indexing. These protocols can rightfully be criticized for various reasons, but in an effort to achieve a standardized format, catalogs have generally agreed to accept them, in spite of the shortcomings. So as not to "reinvent the wheel," we also follow these protocols for our indexing. Due to space constraints, we are not able to include the author portion of the index, or the index to the book reviews. Of course, we still wanted to include some of the journal's traditional fare, so we lead with Janet Sjaarda Sheeres's editing of the diary of a young woman's trip from West Michigan to California during the summer of 1917.

Available On-Line
The Archives staff continues to make material available online. During the last few months we have made a new translation of the Christian Reformed Church's synodical acts, 1857-1880 available at http://www.calvin.edu/library/database/synod/ in PDF format (Portable Document Format is a universal, secure, and reliable distribution and exchange of electronic documents preserving fonts, images, graphics, and layout of the source document). The site can also be reached from the Resources Housed in Heritage Hall page of our own website at www.calvin.edu/hh/. This electronic publication includes the transcribed Dutch text set in columns with the English translation, with the pagination reflecting that of the original handwritten manuscripts. We have also electronically published, at http://www.calvin.edu/hh/family_history_resources/beets_weddings.htm, a listing of the marriages conducted (1896-1913) by Rev. Dr. Henry Beets while residing first in Iowa and later in Michigan. We continued to add as we received them, often weekly, family histories and genealogies to our site at http://www.calvin.edu/hh/family_history_resources/genealogies_page.htm.

News from the Archives
We have completed keying-in cataloging data of about 7,000 of our audio recordings (reel-to-reel, cassette, and digital formats) into a campus-wide database. This database, shared with the Seminary, College Audio Visual, and Conference and Campus Events departments, will ultimately allow anyone to locate audio recorded programs held by both Calvin Theological Seminary and Calvin College via the internet.

A major project of the summer was adding images to our pictorial collection. As the result of a series of donations we have increased this collection by about 60 percent, which required rearrangement of floor space, acquisition of file cabinets, and much archives processing. All the images have been sleeved into acid-neutral holders and filed by subject. Next we will begin to key the new subject information into our existing database for ease of searching.

Cataloging has begun on the department's collection of periodicals. This is the last major area in the Archives that requires extensive cataloging attention, having completed our holdings of images, manuscripts, and audio recordings to date. This effort involves a long list of titles, in a variety of formats, a number of which have never been cataloged previously. As a result, it will take some time to confirm titles and run dates for what are now little-known periodicals from the communities of Dutch immigrants in North America. During the summer we also acquired from the Joint
Archives of Holland microfilm copies of *De Hollander*, 1850-1885 and *De Grondwet*, 1871-1921, both published in Holland, Michigan. Previously we had no copies of *De Hollander* and now have a run of *De Grondwet*, 1871-1938.

We have completed organizing 24 cubic feet of records in the collection for Calvin Theological Seminary and 18 cubic feet from the Social Research Center were added to the Calvin College collection. We also processed records from the General Secretary's office of the Christian Reformed Church, collections from such various related groups as Dynamic Youth, Christian Reformed Conference Grounds, and the Committee for Women in the Christian Reformed Church. We also arranged approximately 35 cubic feet of records from various Christian schools and other agencies related to the Dutch in North America.

Archival records from 90 Christian Reformed Church congregations (seven more than the previous year) were received, microfilmed and returned. We also microfilmed the records of three Christian school organizations.

Final page proofing of the Historical Directory of the Christian Reformed Church has been completed and the manuscript will be in the manufacturing process by the time you read this. It will carry an ISBN of 0-9744329-0-4, be softbound, and have a retail price of $34.95. The directory will list all ministers and their biographies, a brief history of every ministry, from organized congregations to storefront Sunday schools, lay evangelists, ministry associates (evangelists), Calvin Theological Seminary faculty, Calvin College faculty, home missionaries, world missionaries, CRWRC field staff, and chaplains.

Our translators continued their prodigious work with over 250 pages of minutes from church and classes now available in English. Completed during the summer were four of the five volumes of the minutes from the Holland, Michigan Central Avenue CRC and continuing translations of the Pillar Church CRC (also in Holland). Both sets of minutes are being translated at the request of the individual church councils and date to the year before 1918.

**Staff**

Richard Harms continues as the curator of the Archives, housed in Heritage Hall at Calvin College. Other staff members are: Hendrina Van Spronsen, office manager; Wendy Blankespoor, librarian and cataloging archivist; Boukje Leegwater, departmental assistant; and Dr. Robert Bolt, field agent and assistant archivist. Student assistant Nateisha De Cruz continues with our staff while Susan Potter and Linnelle Rooks have class schedules that do not allow for working in the Archives. Instead, student

Kay Bykerk, from DeMotte, Indiana, has joined our student assistant team. We have a very faithful and dedicated corps of volunteers including: Floyd Antonides, Rev. Henry DeMots, Ed Gerritsen, Fred Greidanus, Hendrick Harms, John Hiemstra, Dr. Henry Ippel, Helen Meulink, Rev. Gerrit Sheeres, and Rev. Leonard Sweetman.

Richard H. Harms
Wilhelmina Bolier Pool's
1917 Whistle Stops

Introduced and edited by Janet Sjaarda Sheeres

Introduction

For Wilhelmina (Minnie) Bolier Pool, living in Zeeland, Michigan, the very words Redlands, California exuded romance and adventure. Redlands Christian Reformed Church had been organized in May 1911 with only seven families. The news of its founding and the virtues of the climate had been written about in De Wachter, the denomination's leading publication at the time, and read by the Bolier family.¹ When in the spring of 1917, B.J. (Bernard John) Bennink, the principal of the Holland (Michigan) Christian school, where twenty-three-year-old Minnie was teaching, suggested she apply for the summer teaching position in Redlands, she was eager to do so. "I rushed home to tell my parents the good news," Minnie wrote in her diary. "I was afraid, however, that they might foresee a million dangers for a young woman traveling out West all by herself, on trains filled with soldiers headed for WWI boot training camps and beyond, and would say, 'Not so fast, young lady.' But, to my great surprise, they were enthused and said, 'If I were you, I would go, because you might never get another chance!'"²

The request from the Redlands Christian School Society for their first teacher in the summer of 1917 was possible because of a donation from a church member who had sold a farm in Montana and divided his tithe between the church and the school society.³ Minnie taught all the grades that summer—eleven pupils in the morning and eleven in the afternoon. No salary was paid, but she received railroad fare and a weekly allowance of six dollars for room. As was common at the time, she ate her meals with families in the community.⁴ The following edited excerpts are from her diary of travels and experiences in Redlands.

Tuesday, July 3, 1917,
Kansas-Colorado border

This is the second day of my "Westward Ho" journey. The departing scene played out in Zeeland at twelve-thirty on the night of July 2. Spent a fairly comfortable night and reached Chicago in ample time to complete reservation arrangements.

I had to leave off writing my account of the trip as I did not want to miss any of the ever changing scenery. Also, I was too occupied with all the congenial people with whom I traveled, like Mrs. Mennefee from Los Angeles returning home from Covington, Kentucky, where she had spent two months with her daughter; and wealthy Mrs. Harvey Meyers, who had everything in life but still pretended to worry; and the slick, snaky little businessman who passed himself off as a student of European history in spite of his ignorance of the existence of the Bundesrat;⁵ and the newlyweds who proved to be second cousins.

The scenery in Illinois and eastern Kansas—miles and miles of waving grain fields—reminded me very much of Minnesota. But western Kansas—oh, what a vast stretch of barren acres. Breaking this monotony were the sagebrush, cactus and chipper little prairie dogs. The only representatives of the human race to be seen were the convicts working on the road and the little boxcar towns inhabited by Mexicans. And the awful lack of trees!
One poor old Mexican was actually lying in the shade of a telephone pole.

**Wednesday, July 4, 1917**

Arrived at 5:10 A.M. at Gallup, New Mexico, and was promptly met by Mr. [Jacob] Boscher, who drove us through the invigorating early morning air to the Mission House where I was most kindly received. Mr. [John] Spyker soon had everyone in a “Fourth of July” mood. The pleasant breakfast was followed by watching the Indians, who were decked out in holiday finery with silk handkerchiefs, beads, rings and silver ornaments saddling their horses. Miss [Christine] Hood, the graduate nurse, was also in the yard. Mr. Spyker formed an auto party which consisted of Mr. and Mrs. De Young, Miss Bertha Rosbach and myself. We visited Red Rock, the cliff dwellings, and climbed the mountains for a better view of the Navajo church and then returned to the Indian hogans and ranch.

In the afternoon our party consisted of Mr. Spyker, Miss [Carrie] Ten Houten, Mrs. Van Bree, and Miss Nellie Baker. Our route through the Zuni Mountains was via Milk Ranch and Fort Wingate. Oh the roads! But nothing daunted our drive. Hundreds of saucy little prairie dogs scurried across our path. We did incur some physical discomfort by picking fragrant yellow cactus flowers. The afternoon concluded very pleasantly with a visit to Rev. Brink’s home, where the entire mission staff plus all the Indians living on the place had supper on the porch. After supper Dena Brink and I took a walk to Miss Rosbach’s cabin and the three of us had a long, confidential chat. We went back to the Mission House for a short prayer meeting followed by a watermelon snack. Mr. Boscher, Herman Brink, Sera Voss and Dena took me to Gallup where I made the 9:15 train for Williams, Arizona. This day really left an impression on me, one that I’ve never forgotten. Not the least of which is the uphill work connected with evangelizing the Indians and improving their deplorable moral state and home life. And surely, the spirit existing among the mission workers seemed most congenial.

**Thursday, July 5, 1917**

At 3:45 A.M. (oh me, oh my!) the porter pulled at my sheet, reminding me that it was time for a side-exursion to the Grand Canyon. The ride to the canyon was very enjoyable, though the scenery was not at all that beautiful. An interesting feature was the dead cattle and skeletons lying alongside the roadside, the result of being knocked down by trains I was told. At 4:30 A.M. we were at the canyon. A description of this spectacle is quite beyond me. A walk about the rim gives only a general impression. The longer one looks, the more one sees of its ever-changing color and the more its size and beauty grows on you. Our time was taken up by visiting the Lookout, El Tovar, the Hopi House and taking the rim ride to Hermit’s Rest, a beautiful dwelling place with a grand stone fireplace. A never failing source of interest, to those who themselves do not venture in, is watching the parties who do go into the canyon on muleback.
to my boarding home on Clay Street.

**Sunday, July 8, 1917**

I joined the congregation as they worshipped in the little church on Clay Street. This church building will also serve as the school for the next six weeks. How do you convert a church into a school room? A couple of the men remained after the evening service and removed a number of benches at the north end of the auditorium and set up eleven school desks.

**Monday, July 30, 1917, Redlands**

This week marks the beginning of the second half of my work here. I have already visited many of the people—Sebastian Struyk's family being the last. Was there last night. Had a great visit.

The first three weeks of my stay here were quite occupied. I made some interesting trips to Colton, San Bernardino, Arrowhead, Smiley Heights, and Riverside, where we climbed Mt. Rubidoux and visited the wonderful Mission Inn. Also, made a Saturday trip to East Highlands, Patton, and surrounding country. Picked roses, oleanders and flowers of all kinds.

I am beginning to see what is really beautiful in California—the vegetation where there is irrigation. I was somewhat disappointed in the barren look of those spots which are not touched by water. It looks like Michigan when parched by the heat. The temperature in the schoolroom is between 95 and 100 degrees every afternoon, and when I step out on the pavement I leave the imprint of my shoes on it.

I found quite a difference between Michigan and California at this season—Michigan so hot this year, and California so wet that the crops of oranges, lemons and grapefruit burned. Quite a calamity—the oranges being about the only thing affording industry here. Many of the flowers, trees and shrubs reminded me of those mentioned in the Bible, so I collected leaves and flowers from them to take back to Michigan, such as eucalyptus, pomegranate, acacia, date palm, orange blossoms and many others. One afternoon I spent waxing them at the home of Mr. and Mrs. Barney Leest.

One of the most remarkable features of this country is the "Spirit of the West." It seems as though among the people of this congrega-

"Oh the roads! But nothing daunted our drive."

becoming smaller and smaller the deeper they go.

The train left the canyon at 7:30 P.M. and I, being very tired, immediately repaired to my bunk, but, due to the heat, arose listlessly the next morning. The temperature in the desert the previous day had been 130 degrees, so the warden informed me. I was also told that no women live in the area, only foreigners who work on the (railroad) sections.

**Saturday, July 7, 1917**

Our train was only about ten minutes late in arriving at San Bernardino, where a committee from the school society met the train. In the welcome committee were Mr. Dick Brummeler, Mr. Sebastian Struyk, and Rev. Jacob Vissia and his two children. They escorted me "A description of this spectacle is quite beyond me."
tion everybody is always welcome at everybody's house. Many people came here due to illnesses, so they seem bound by a common tie and all know what it means to be a "stranger in Jerusalem."

School is going on as usual. I asked the hygiene class, "What should we remember when buying food?" to which Arthur Meeter answered, "To pay for it." Speaking of food, I suffered from thirst when I first came to the drier climate and how welcome are the gifts or oranges and apricots the children bring to school. Other things are not so welcome. There are a lot of hornetoads [horned toads] hopping around the vacant lots and one of the boys brought one to school one day. A hornetoad—for those who have never heard of or seen one—is not really a toad or frog, but belongs to the lizard family. The spiky head armor and toad-shaped body of this fearsome looking dragon-like lizard account for its name. Somehow the teacher wasn't too happy about having one attend school.

evening. Such cantaloupe! Spent the evening at Schuiling's. Had a very pleasant evening, as I like Mr. Schuiling very much. He's a good talker, quite a tease, and a German sympathizer. Talked a lot about Montana, their previous home, where they lived for about eighteen years.

Am to go to Meeter's in a couple of hours for my sauerkraut dinner. I like the family spirit there. One never hears any backbiting or destructive criticism. It is too hot today. The heat wave seems to have passed on to New York where 87/8 are reported to have died since Sunday. Hope Mother isn't suffering. Me, I'm headed for the tub, the closest imitation I have of Long Beach. 18

Friday, August 10, 1917, 10:05 P.M.

Can't sleep. Been lying in bed—thinking. I've been planning my trip home, which I shall start a week from today. I think I shall leave from Los Angeles a week from today with Elizabeth De Weerd. Rev. Vissia suggests waiting until Monday so he can take me down, but I'm not keen on that as it keeps me from the beach too long.

Saturday, August 4, 1917

Have been out until 11:30 too many nights. Went to Struyk's for tea on Wednesday where Winnie and Mrs. Meeter had been spending the afternoon. First stopped at Susie Flystra's for ice-cold orangeade. 17

Stayed at home Thursday evening and made apricot butter for Mother. Hope I can get it home safely. Had supper at Brummeler's last

"School is going on as usual."

"... a beautiful dwelling place with a grand stone fireplace."
short trips. First to Long Beach where I took my first ocean dip. Saw Pasadena and the Cawston Ostrich Farm in the afternoon and went from there to the San Gabriel Mission. The 90-year-old rose bush climbing over their porch in the rear needed only an old monk... in a previous century. I was quite interested in the baptismal room where Ramona is said to have been baptized.20 Left Los Angeles Monday at 8 P.M.

Arrived in San Francisco at 9:45 the following morning. After making further reservations and getting lunch, I went to see the exhibit at the ferry and then took the sightseeing car to Oakland, Berkeley, and Piedmont. Met three soldier boys who had just returned from the Philippines. Went out on the ferry which carried three locomotives across [San] Pablo Bay and met Mr. P. Plager, Superintendent of the Pullman Electrical Department. Chatted with him until we reached Sacramento at 10:45 P.M. Went out to see the town during a twenty-minute wait. Ate some peaches and retired. Left the train at Truckee the next morning and breakfasted with Mr. Plager. After which we were off for Lake Tahoe. (Fare from Truckee to tavern $3.00; on boat around lake $2.00.)

The tavern is great, but the lake beats anything I've ever seen. The water is as clear as crystal and as smooth as glass. The colors, too, are wonderful. I can't describe the mountains covered with the greenest of green pines and in some parts still covered with snow. Lake Tahoe is about 6,250 feet above sea level.

write about all I've seen because I've seen so much and had such good times since I wrote last, I can't begin to tell it all.

**Thursday, August 23, 1917, on route to Salt Lake City**

Whew, it is hot and it is dusty! I'm as dirty as a pig. This is a dreary uninhabited stretch very much like western Kansas, but even more dusty. The porter finds it necessary to close the windows. We just passed the Great Salt Lake, and are passing through a greener stretch in which they raise corn, alfalfa, sugar beets, and some fruit. The mountains are very barren and not pretty. The train is filled with affluent people. The women act as if they are higher classed. One noticeable thing about the women on the streets of Los Angeles and San Francisco is the way in which they parade in their finery in the afternoon. We are entering Ogden. Looks like quite a burg.

**Friday, August 24, 1917, on board the D. & R. G. (Denver & Rio Grande)**

Due to the train being an hour and a half late, we left Salt Lake City three and a half hours ago. Like it does many others, Salt Lake City impressed me favorably as well. Arrived there...
yesterday at four in the afternoon, made a mad dash for the Y.W.C.A. and from there made another dash to the Great Salt Lake. There was a Dutch family on the car and also a young man from Nebraska. Went bathing, or rather floating. It is really quite the sensation to simply lie down and have your feet come up to meet your face. My face was coated with salt. Also took a sightseeing bus around the city. The city was laid out by Brigham Young, who used a unique method of naming the streets. The Temple is situated in the center of the city with the street numbering beginning from it. The streets are very wide and most houses are built of brick. The organ recital in the Tabernacle was sublime. Never heard anything so beautiful. My impression of the Mormons, more correctly called the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints, was more favorable than before. Of course, only the best side was presented by the guide. He especially stressed their clean, moral lifestyle. Marriage to them is not only for time but also for eternity.

Monday, August 27, 1947, 7:40 P.M.
Traveled from Salt Lake City and arrived in Denver. The route was very scenic but the train was dirty and slow.

Endnotes
2. The diary was edited for this article, but in the original version Minnie mentions meeting and engaging in conversations with military men on several occasions.
3. The donor, Mr. Schuiling, accompanied the tithe with prayers that his daughter would become a Christian school teacher. At the end of six weeks of summer school, the pupils’ work was displayed at an evening program. The daughter was so enthusiastic when she viewed the work that she immediately enrolled at Calvin College to begin training for a teaching career.
5. The upper house, or Federal Council, in Imperial Germany. The members of the Bundesrat were appointed, not elected as were the members of the Reichstag.
7. Ibid. 10. John Spyker, a retired builder from Zeeland, Michigan, had been hired by the Mission Board in 1912 as industrial superintendent and industrial arts teacher, and would have known the Bolier family.
8. Ibid. 18. Christine Hood Whipple (1889-1993) was born in Pinedale, New Mexico, and was the first graduate of the nurses’ training program at Rehoboth.
9. Mr. and Mrs. De Young were not on the Rehoboth staff; perhaps they were visitors.
11. Nellie Baker (Mrs. J. Vander Zee) laundress and housekeeper at Rehoboth from 1916-1925; 1927-1932. Mrs. Arie Ter Molen Van Bee was housekeeper 1916-1918.
12. Ippel, "Making Room for Rehoboth," 11. To counter the ravages of prairie dogs on the mission’s crops, a mixture of oats and poison was used.
15. Hermit’s Rest. The small stone building, built by architect Mary Elizabeth Jane Colter in 1914, overlooks the canyon from 6,650 feet. Originally built as a resting place for stagecoach travelers taking tours along the West Rim, Hermit’s Rest provides a pristine view of the Grand Canyon. Underneath its massive wooden porch are log benches, where travelers can rest and take in the spectacular scenery.
16. Sebastian Struyk (1885-1952) felt called to the ministry while living in Redlands. He graduated from the Seminary in 1922 and served churches in Willard, Ohio; and Los Angeles, California. He fostered the organization of Christian schools in both places and served for some years on the Board of Trustees at Calvin College and Seminary. Rev. Jacob Vissia (1880-1924) was pastor at Redlands. His wife had passed away in 1916, leaving him with two children to care for. His own health deteriorated due to the Spanish flu in 1919, so much so that he had to retire from the ministry that year. He died five years later, in 1924, due to heart failure.
19. Slang for an automobile, especially one that is small, inexpensive, and old.
Subject Index to Origins
Volume 1—Volume 20, 1983–2002

Advertising

Afscheiding van 1834


Agriculture — California


Agriculture — Canada
“Journey to Despair,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 2 # 2 (1984): 2-8

Agriculture — Illinois


Agriculture — Indiana
“The Trek to the West Regina,” by William Reeker, v 17 # 1 (1999): 3-16


Agriculture — Iowa
“Journey to Despair,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 2 # 2 (1984): 2-8


“From Pella to Orange City,” by Nella Kennedy, v 3 # 2 (1985): 10-17


Agriculture — Michigan
“Farming, the Wilderness Tamed: Six Months in America,” by Johannes Van Dyke, v 1 # 2 (1983): 9


“Coming of Age in the 1940s,” by Claude Venema, v 20 # 2 (2002): 13-20

**Agriculture — Minnesota**


**Agriculture — Montana**

“Paradise Lost Columbus, Montana,” by David Zandstra, v 11 # 1 (1993): 36-44


**Agriculture — North Carolina**


**Agriculture — North Dakota**


**Agriculture — Saskatchewan**


**Agriculture — South Dakota**

“Journey to Despair,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 2 # 2 (1984): 2-8


“The Vanden Hoeks in Harrison, 1884-1895,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 5 # 1 (1987): 38-41

**Agriculture — Texas**


**Agriculture — The Netherlands**


**Agriculture — Washington**


**Agriculture — Wisconsin**


**Alamosa (Colo.) — History**


**Aletheans (Paterson, N.J.)**


**Alto (Wis.) — History**


**Alvin (Tex.) — History**


**Americanization**


**Amsterdam (Mont.) — History**

Amsterdamse Emigranten

Apache Indians

Artists — United States

Avink, Harm family

Banner

Basic training (Military education) — United States

Baxter Christian School (Grand Rapids, Mich.) — History

Bechtold, Arend Hendrick, 1822-1884

Beets, Henry, 1869-1947

Bellflower (Calif.) — History

Bellflower (Calif.) Christian School

Beltman, Hendrik, 1833-1911

Bennink, John Everett, 1886-1971

Berean Bible Church (Muskegon, Mich.)

Bethel Christian Reformed Church (Brockville, Ont.)
“Bringing the Netherlands to Canada,” by Philip F. Reinders, v 5 # 1 (1987): 27-31

Bethesda PsychHealth Hospital (Denver, Colo.)

Bible, Dutch — History

Bluffton Christian Reformed Church (Muskegon, Mich.)

Borculo (Mich.) — History

Bos, W. M.
“Border Crossings: The United States and Canada,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 3 # 1 (1985): 14-17
Bouma, Donald H.

Brickmaking

Brink, Abel J., 1865-1930

Broek op Langedijk (Netherlands)

Broere, Bastiaan, 1822-1887

Budding, Huibert Jacobus, 1810-1870

Bultema, Harry

California — Description and travel

California — Gold discoveries

Calumet Region (Ill. and Ind.)
From South Holland to Orange City, 1882,” by Teunis Bos Vanden Hoek, v 4 # 1 (1986): 33-35


Calvary Undenominational Church (Grand Rapids, Mich.)

Calvin College (Grand Rapids, Mich.) — History
“Factory to Pulpit,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 6 # 2 (1988): 2-15
“To Train a Teacher,” by Peter P. De Boer, v 8 # 2 (1990): 30-41
“Calvin College: From Preparatory Program to Liberal Arts College,” by Harry Boonstra, v 19 # 1 (2001): 31-38

Calvin Theological Seminary (Grand Rapids, Mich.)

Calvin Theological Seminary (Grand Rapids, Mich.) — History

Canada — Emigration and immigration
“Bringing the Netherlands to Canada,” by Philip F. Reinders, v 5 # 1 (1987): 27-31
Canadian Calvinist

Canadian Reformed Churches — History
“Not So Distant Cousins: Thoughts at the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Canadian Reformed Church,” by John Knight, v 18 # 2 (2000): 10-23

Canal-boats

Castel Bianco (Ship)

Castle Garden Immigration Station (New York, N.Y.) — History
“Castle Garden,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 2 # 1 (1984): 6-8

Catechisms — Christian Reformed Church

Celery
“Coming of Age in the 1940s,” by Claude Venema, v 20 # 2 (2002): 13-20

Central College (Pella, Iowa) — History

Cevall, John (Jan)

Chaplains, Military — United States

Chicago (Ill.) — History


“Miscellaneous Background Notes on Chicago's South-Side Dutch,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 2 # 1 (1984): 9


Christian Reformed Church


Christian Reformed Church — California

“WWII: California,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 5 # 2 (1987): 36-45


Redlands (California) Christian Reformed Church


**Christian Reformed Church — Canada**


“Not So Distant Cousins: Thoughts at the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Canadian Reformed Church,” by John Knight, v 18 # 2 (2000): 10-23

**Christian Reformed Church — Education**


“Calvin College: From Preparatory Program to Liberal Arts College,” by Harry Boonstra, v 19 # 1 (2001): 31-38

“Grundy College: Undying Legacy or Broken Promises?” by Alan Waddilove, v 19 # 1 (2001): 54-60


**Christian Reformed Church — History**


**Christian Reformed Church — Illinois**


“Church and School on Chicago’s West Side, 1913-1921,” by Henry Stob, v 10 # 2 (1992): 14-19

**Christian Reformed Church — Indiana**


**Christian Reformed Church — Iowa**


**Christian Reformed Church — Michigan**

“Grand Rapids: An Immigrant’s First Impressions,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 3 # 2 (1985): 30-34


Christian Reformed Church — Missions


Christian Reformed Church — Missions — China

Christian Reformed Church — Montana

Christian Reformed Church — New Jersey


Christian Reformed Church — North America
“A View from the Parsonage: Klaas Kuiper and His Family,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 4 # 1 (1986): 2-10


Christian Reformed Church — North Carolina

Christian Reformed Church — South Dakota
“The Vanden Hoecks in Harrison, 1884-1895,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 5 # 1 (1987): 38-41

Christian Reformed Church — Washington

Christian Reformed Church — Wisconsin


Reformed Church — World


Reformed Church (Houston, B.C.)


Reformed Church (Polkton, Mich.)


Reformed Church in America


Cock, Hendrik de, 1801-1842


Colman family


Columbus (Mont.) — History

"Paradise Lost Columbus, Montana," by David Zandstra, v 11 # 1 (1993): 36-44

"A Footnote on Columbus, Montana," by Cecil Staal Triemstra, v 11 # 2 (1993): 17

Columbus Christian Reformed Church (Columbus, Mont.)

"Paradise Lost Columbus, Montana," by David Zandstra, v 11 # 1 (1993): 36-44

Coopersville (Mich.) — History

Cramersburg Christian Reformed Church
(Cramersburg, Sask.)

Daverman, Inc.

De Beij, Bernardus, 1816-1894
"Bernardus De Beij (1815-1894)," by Herbert J. Brinks, v 1 # 1 (1983): 9-10
De Boer, Jappe, 1861-1941

De Groot, Jan and Agi family

De Haan, M. R. (Martin Ralph), 1891-1964

De Jong, Ymen Peter, 1876-1958

De Lange, Willem Hendrick, 1874
"Grand Rapids: An Immigrant's First Impressions," by Herbert J. Brinks, v 3 # 2 (1985): 30-34

De Rooy, Jacobus, 1812-1884

De Vries, Klaas
"Border Crossings: The United States and Canada," by Herbert J. Brinks, v 3 # 1 (1985): 14-17

De Wachter

Den Blyker, Paulus, 1804-1872

Depressions, 1929 — Grand Rapids (Mich.)
"Coming of Age in the 1940s," by Claude Venema, v 20 # 2 (2002): 13-20

Depressions, 1929 — United States

Diemer, Frederick

Dornbush, Menzo, 1903-1999
Dosker, Henry Elias, 1855-1926

Douma, John and Clara
"Journey to Despair," by Herbert J. Brinks, v 2 # 2 (1984): 2-8

Draft — United States

Drenthe (Mich.) — History

Dutch — Australia — History

Dutch Americans
"Home Builders Meat, Bread, and (sometimes) Oranges!" by Suzanne Sinke, v 14 # 1 (1996): 2-8

Dutch Americans — California
"From Whitinsville to California," by Annette Poelstra Yff, v 12 # 2 (1994): 11-15

Dutch Americans — California — Bellflower

Dutch Americans — California — Los Angeles

Dutch Americans — California — Redlands

Dutch Americans — California — Ripon

Dutch Americans — Calumet Region (Ill. and Ind.)

Dutch Americans — Colorado
"From Grand Rapids to Denver — The Experiences of the Joling Family," by Helen Vander Meulen, v 15 # 2 (1997): 30-32

Dutch Americans — Education
"To Train a Teacher," by Peter P. De Boer, v 8 # 2 (1990): 30-41

“Miscellaneous Background Notes on Chicago’s South-Side Dutch,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 2 # 1 (1984): 9


“Factory to Pulpit,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 6 # 2 (1988): 2-15


“Church and School on Chicago’s West Side 1913-1921 Part 2,” by Henry Stob, v 11 # 1 (1993): 24-29


**Dutch Americans — Illinois — Roseland (Chicago, Ill.)**

“Growing up in Roseland in the 20’s and 30’s,” by Richard R. Tiemersma, v 5 # 1 (1987): 2-19


**Dutch Americans — Indiana — Highland**


Dutch Americans — Iowa
"Journey to Despair," by Herbert J. Brinks, v 2 # 2 (1984): 2-8

"Iowa: Truly Is a Fine State Especially for Agriculture," by Hendricus Beuker, v 3 # 2 (1985): 2-7

"From Pella to Orange City," by Nella Kennedy, v 3 # 2 (1985): 10-17

"From South Holland to Orange City, 1882," by Teunis Bos Vanden Hoek, v 4 # 1 (1986): 33-35


Dutch Americans — Iowa — Grundy Center
"Grundy College: Undying Legacy or Broken Promises?" by Alan Waddilove, v 19 # 1 (2001): 54-60

Dutch Americans — Iowa — Orange City

Dutch Americans — Iowa — Pella


Dutch Americans — Iowa — Sioux Center


Dutch Americans — Massachusetts

Dutch Americans — Michigan

District No. 7 School, Highland, Michigan


Dutch Americans — Michigan — Borculo


Dutch Americans — Michigan — Grand Haven


Dutch Americans — Michigan — Grand Rapids

"Dutch Immigrant Neighborhoods in the City of Grand Rapids, 1848-1900 (1)," by David G. Vander Stel, v 1 # 2 (1983): 26-28

"Dutch Immigrant Neighborhoods in the City of Grand Rapids 1848-1900 (2)," by David G. Vander Stel, v 2 # 1 (1984): 22-27


"Grand Rapids: An Immigrant's First Impressions," by Herbert J. Brinks, v 3 # 2 (1985): 30-34


"Childhood Memories of Oakdale Park," by Dena Korfker, v 8 # 1 (1990): 36-40


"Oakdale's 'Service Economy,'" by William Huizingh, v 8 # 1 (1990): 52


"Baxter Years," by John Pastoor, v 14 # 2 (1996): 9-17

"In the Beginning," by Herbert J. Brinks, v 15 # 2 (1997): 2-6


Dutch Americans — Michigan — Holland


"From Colony to City: Holland's First Twenty-Five Years," by Robert P. Swierenga, v 16 # 2 (1998): 11-16


Dutch Americans — Michigan — Kalamazoo

Dutch Americans — Michigan — Missaukee County
“Missaukee County: The Meekhof Farm,” by Mijn and Wilhelmina Meekhof, v 8 # 2 (1990): 10-12
“Missaukee County: County to Province,” by George Gruenberg, v 9 # 1 (1991): 19-23

Dutch Americans — Michigan — Moline
“Factory to Pulpit,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 6 # 2 (1988): 2-15

Dutch Americans — Michigan — Montague

Dutch Americans — Michigan — Muskegon

Dutch Americans — Michigan — Ottawa County
“Albertus C. Van Raalte: A Look at the Autumn Years of His Life (1867-1876),” by Michael De Vries, v 19 # 2 (2001): 12-18

Dutch Americans — Michigan, Western
“Farming, the Wilderness Tamed,” by Johannes Van Dyke, v 1 # 2 (1983): 9

Dutch Americans — Minnesota
“Peepe, Minnesota: Saga of One Hundred Years,” by Fannie Smith, v 7 # 2 (1989): 14-22

Dutch Americans — Montana
“Reinder E. Werkman — Promoting Western Land for Immigrants,” by Donald Van Reken, v 17 # 1 (1999): 36-39

Dutch Americans — Montana — Columbus
“Paradise Lost Columbus, Montana,” by David Sandstra, v 11 # 1 (1993): 36-44
“A Footnote on Columbus, Montana,” by Cecil Staal Triemstra, v 11 # 2 (1993): 17
Dutch Americans — New Jersey

Dutch Americans — New Jersey — Hoboken

Dutch Americans — New Jersey — Paterson
“Fear and Hope Jostled: Dutch Immigrant Life and Death in Paterson, New Jersey,” by Helen Westra, v 8 # 2 (1990): 2-15

Dutch Americans — New Mexico

Dutch Americans — New York

Dutch Americans — New York — New York

Dutch Americans — North Carolina — Terra Cielo

Dutch Americans — South Dakota
“Journey to Despair,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 2 # 2 (1984): 2-8

Dutch Americans — South Dakota — Harrison
“The Vanden Hoeks in Harrison, 1884-1895,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 5 # 1 (1987): 38-41

Dutch Americans — South Dakota — New Holland
“My First Year in America,” by Mins Reinsma, v 8 # 1 (1990): 30-32

Dutch Americans — Texas — Winnie

Stob farmstead in Winnie, Texas

Dutch Americans — United States
“A View from the Parsonage: Klaas Kuiper and His Family,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 4 # 1 (1986): 2-10
“Not So Distant Cousins: Thoughts at the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Canadian Reformed Church,” by John Knight, v 18 # 2 (2000): 10-23

Dutch Americans — Virginia
“Albertus C. Van Raalte: A Look at the Autumn Years of His Life (1867-1876),” by Michael De Vries, v 19 # 2 (2001): 12-18

Dutch Americans — Washington

Dutch Americans — Wisconsin

Dutch Canadians

Dutch Canadians — British Columbia

Dutch Canadians — Manitoba
“Border Crossings: The United States and Canada,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 3 # 1 (1985): 14-17

Dutch Canadians — Nova Scotia — Halifax

Dutch Canadians — Saskatchewan
“Journey to Despair,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 2 # 2 (1984): 2-8

Dykstra, B. D
“B.D. Dykstra and California,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 15 # 2 (1997): 7-8

**Eastern Avenue Christian Reformed Church (Grand Rapids, Mich.) — History**

**Eastern Christian High (Paterson, N.J.) — History**

**Ebenezer Christian School (Chicago, Ill.)**
“Church and School on Chicago’s West Side 1913-1921 Part 2,” by Henry Stob, v 11 # 1 (1993): 24-29
“Johanna (Gelderloos) LaMaire: Notes from and about the Past,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 11 # 1 (1993): 30-33

**Ellis Island Immigrant Station (New York, N.Y.)**
“Ocean Voyage Accounts, 1856,” by Jan George Zahn, v 8 # 1 (1990): 5-8

**Emigration and Immigration Netherlands**

**Ethnic festivals**

**Ethnic groups — Illinois — Chicago**

**First Christian Reformed Church (Lynden, Wash.)**

**First Christian Reformed Church (Grand Rapids, Mich.) — History**
“In the Beginning,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 15 # 2 (1997): 2-6

**First Christian Reformed Church (Redlands, Calif.)**

**Fishing — Michigan**

**Floods — Illinois**

**Friesland (Minn.) — History**


**Frisians — United States**

**Gereformeerde Kerk onder 't Kruis**
Gereformeerde Kerken in Nederland — History

Gereformeerde Kerken in Nederland Vrijgemaakt — History

German Americans — Education
“Grundy College: Undying Legacy or Broken Promises?,” by Alan Waddilove, v 19 # 1 (2001): 54-60

German Americans — Iowa
“Grundy College: Undying Legacy or Broken Promises?,” by Alan Waddilove, v 19 # 1 (2001): 54-60

German Americans — Michigan

German Americans — Minnesota

Germany — Emigration and Immigration

Gold mines and mining — Colorado

Graafschap, Mich. — History

Grace and Glory

Grand Haven (Mich.) — History

Grand Rapids (Mich.) — History
“Grand Rapids: An Immigrant’s First Impressions,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 3 # 2 (1985): 30-34
“Childhood Memories of Oakdale Park,” by Dena Korfker, v 8 # 1 (1990): 36-40
“Oakdale’s Service Economy,” by William Huizingh, v 8 # 1 (1990): 52
Origins


"Baxter Years," by John Pastoor, v 14 # 2 (1996): 9-17


"In the Beginning," by Herbert J. Brinks, v 15 # 2 (1997): 2-6

Grand Rapids (Mich.) — History — Social conditions

"Dutch Immigrant Neighborhoods in the City of Grand Rapids, 1848-1900 (1)," by David G. Vander Stel, v 1 # 2 (1983): 26-28

"Dutch Immigrant Neighborhoods in the City of Grand Rapids 1848-1900 (2)," by David G. Vander Stel, v 2 # 1 (1984): 22-27


Granville Avenue Christian Reformed Church (Grand Rapids, Mich.)


Greenhouse gardening


Greydanus, Sytze Elco, 1883-1964

"Lay Leaders," by Herbert J. Brinks, v 15 # 1 (1997): 8-10


Groningen (Mich.) — History


Grundy College (Grundy Center, Iowa) — History

"Grundy College: Undying Legacy or Broken Promises?" by Alan Waddilove, v 19 # 1 (2001): 54-60

Haan, Gysbert, 1801-1874


Halifax (N.S.) — History


Harrison (S.D.) — History


Haverkamp, William, 1908-1983

Heritage Hall (Calvin College: Grand Rapids, Mich.)

Highland (Ind.) — History

Highland (Mich.) — History

Highland Christian Reformed Church (Highland, Mich.)

Hoeksema, Herman

Hoekema, Klaas (Claude)

Holland (Mich.) — History
“From Colony to City: Holland’s First Twenty-Five Years,” by Robert P. Swierenga, v 16 # 2 (1998): 11-16

“Albertus C. Van Raalte: A Look at the Autumn Years of His Life (1867-1876),” by Michael De Vries, v 19 # 2 (2001): 12-18

Hollandale (Minn.) — History

Holland-America Land and Immigration Company

Holland Amerika Lijn


Hope College — History

Hulst, L. J. (Lammert J.)
Huyser, Janet

Hymns

Immigrants — Religious life
“A View from the Parsonage: Klaas Kuiper and His Family,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 4 # 1 (1986): 2-10
“Church and School on Chicago’s West Side, 1913-1921,” by Henry Stob, v 10 # 2 (1992): 14-19


Immigrants’ writings, Dutch
“From South Holland to Orange City, 1882,” by Teunis Bos Vanden Hock, v 4 # 1 (1986): 33-35
“Factory to Pulpit,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 6 # 2 (1988): 2-15
“Fear and Hope Jostled: Dutch Immigrant Life and Death in Paterson, New Jersey,” by Helen Westra, v 8 # 2 (1990): 2-15
“Missaukee County: The Meekhof Farm,” by Mijna and Wilhelmina Meekhof, v 8 # 2 (1990): 10-12


“A Footnote on Columbus, Montana,” by Cecil Staal Triemstra, v 11 # 2 (1993): 17


“Dear Queen . . . ,” by Janet Sjaarda Sheeres, v 14 # 2 (1996): 38-41


**Immigrants — Canada**


**Industrialists — United States — Biography**


**Influenza — History — 20th century**


**Isaacs, Samuel Myer**


**Jager, Johannes**


**Jews — Grand Rapids (Mich.)**


**Jews — New York (N.Y.)**


**Joling, John and Evelyn**

“From Grand Rapids to Denver—the Experiences of the Joling Family,” by Helen Vander Meulen, v 15 # 2 (1997): 30-32

**Jorritsma family**


**Kalamazoo (Mich.) — History**


**Koch, Theodore F., 1854-1940**

Koopmans, Hendrik Ruine, 1824-1884

Kuiper family

Kuiper, Henry J., 1885-1962

Kuiper, Klaas, 1841-1921
“A View from the Parsonage: Klaas Kuiper and His Family,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 4 # 1 (1986): 2-10

Kuiper, Oeds, 1865-

Kuiper, Roelof T., 1826-1894

Kuizema Hardware

Kuyper, A. (Abraham), 1837-1920

Lanester, Peter, 1799-1870

Lark (N. D.) — History

Lay preaching

Lee Street Christian Reformed Church
(Wyoming, Mich.)

Lee Street Christian Reformed Church


Literature — Societies, etc. — New Jersey

Log cabins — Michigan

Lord’s Supper

Lumbering — Michigan

Lynden (Wash.) — History


Manhattan (Mont.) — History

McBain Christian Reformed Church (McBain, Mich.)

Meekhof, Mijna and Wilhelmina
“The Meekhof Farm,” by Mijna and Wilhelmina Meekhof, v 9 # 1 (1990): 10-12

Meeter, John E.

Meinders, E. L., 1827-1904

Michigan — Description and travel

Miedema, Dirk

Mierop, William

Migrant agricultural laborers — Michigan — Holland

Migration, internal — Canada
“Border Crossings: The United States and Canada,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 3 # 1 (1985): 14-17


Migration, internal — United States
“Journey to Despair,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 2 # 2 (1984): 2-8
“From South Holland to Orange City, 1882,” by Teunis Bos Vanden Hoek, v 4 # 1 (1986): 33-35
“Paradise Lost Columbus, Montana,” by David Zandstra, v 11 # 1 (1993): 36-44
“A Footnote on Columbus, Montana,” by Cecil Staal Triemstra, v 11 # 2 (1993): 17
“From Whittingsville to California,” by Annette Poelstra Yff, v 12 # 2 (1994): 11-15

Missaukee County (Mich.) — History
“A Wilderness Colony,” by Herbert J. Brinks, v 9 # 1 (1990): 2-3
Missionary Monthly

Missions — New Mexico

Missions — United States

Montague (Mich.) — History

 Murder — Michigan — Grand Rapids

Muskegon (Mich.) — History

Navajo Indians

Students at the Rehoboth, New Mexico School

Netherlands — Description and travel

Netherlands — Emigration and immigration
“Dear Queen . . . , by Janet Sjaarda Sheeres, v 14 # 2 (1996): 38-41

Netherlands Reformed Congregations — History

Netherlands Reformed Congregations — South Holland (Ill.)
New Groningen, Michigan — History
“Six Months in America,” by Johannes Van Dyke, v 1 # 2 (1983): 3-8

New Holland Christian Reformed Church (New Holland, S.D.)
“My First Year in America,” by Mins Reinsma, v 8 # 1 (1990): 30-32

New Mexico — History

Nicolay family

Nieland, Dirk, 1866-

Northwestern College (Orange City, Iowa) — History

Oak Harbor (Wash.) — History


Oakdale Christian School (Grand Rapids, Mich.)

Oakdale Park Christian Reformed Church (Grand Rapids, Mich.)


Oostburg Christian Reformed Church (Oostburg, Wisc.)


Orange City (Iowa) — History
“From Pella to Orange City,” by Nella Kennedy, v 3 # 2 (1985): 10-17

“From South Holland to Orange City, 1882,” by Teunis Bos Vanden Hoek, v 4 # 1 (1986): 33-35

Organists

Overisel (Mich.) — History

Overvoorde, Chris Stoffel

Pastoor, Willem and Hilje family

Paterson (N.J.) — History

Paterson, New Jersey silk mill interior, c1900


**Paterson (N.J.) Christian Reformed Church**

**Pease (Minn.) — History**
“Pease, Minnesota: Saga of One Hundred Years,” by Fannie Smith, v 7 # 2 (1989): 14-22

**Pease Christian Reformed Church (Pease, Minn.)**
“Pease, Minnesota: Saga of One Hundred Years,” by Fannie Smith, v 7 # 2 (1989): 14-22

**Pease Christian School (Pease, Minn.)**
“Pease, Minnesota: Saga of One Hundred Years,” by Fannie Smith, v 7 # 2 (1989): 14-22

**Peat — Netherlands**

**Pella (Iowa) — History**
“From Pella to Orange City,” by Nella Kennedy, v 3 # 2 (1985): 10-17


**Phoenix (Steamship)**


**Photography — United States**

**Pine Rest Christian Hospital (Grand Rapids, Mich.)**

**Pine Street Christian School (Paterson, N.J.)**

**Pioneer and frontier life — Canada, Western**

**Plaisier, Aart family**

**Pleasant Street Christian Reformed Church (Whitinsville, Mass.)**

**Polish Americans — Michigan — Grand Rapids**

“A Polish-Dutch Connection—Then and Now,” by John Witte, Sr., v 13 # 2 (1995): 33-34

**Preaching**

**Presbyterian Church — Wisconsin**

**Prinsburg Christian Reformed Church (Prinsburg, Minn.)**

36
Protestant Reformed Churches of America — History
"Not So Distant Cousins: Thoughts at the Fiftieth Anniversary of the Canadian Reformed Church," by John Knight, v 18 # 2 (2000): 10-23


Protestant theological seminaries — Iowa — Grundy Center
"Grundy College: Undying Legacy or Broken Promises?" by Alan Waddilove, v 19 # 1 (2001): 54-60

Protestant theological seminaries — Michigan — Grand Rapids

Protestant theological seminaries — Michigan — Holland

Psalters

Public worship


Pullman Company — History


Quincy (Ill.) — History

Quincy Christian Reformed Church (Quincy, Ill.)

Radio broadcasting — Religious aspects — Christianity — History

Ramerman family

Recker family


Recruitment and enlistment — Netherlands

Redlands (Calif.) — History

Reformed Bible College (Grand Rapids, Mich.) — History
Reformed Church — Netherlands — History

Reformed church buildings

Reformed Church in America

Reformed Church in America — California

Reformed Church in America — Education

Reformed Church in America — Illinois

Reformed Church in America — Iowa

Reformed Church in America — Michigan — Holland
“From Colony to City: Holland’s First Twenty-Five Years,” by Robert P. Swierenga, v 16 # 2 (1998): 11-16

Reformed Church in America — Missions

Reformed Church in America — Wisconsin

Reformed Church in America (Polkton, Mich.)

Refugees — Government policy

Rehoboth (N.M.) — History

Reinders, F. J.
“Bringing the Netherlands to Canada,” by Philip F. Reinders, v 5 # 1 (1987): 27-31

Rhubarb
“Coming of Age in the 1940s,” by Claude Venema, v 20 # 2 (2002): 13-20

Rice, Rodger Reid
Ripon (Calif.) — History
“From Whitinsville to California,” by Annette Poelstra Yff, v 12 # 2 (1994): 11-15

Roseland Christian Reformed Church (Lynwood, Ill.)

Roseland (Chicago, Ill.) — History


Sabbath

Scheepers, Harm

Scheepers, Jan, 1832-1902

Schilder, K. (Klaas), 1890-1952
“Klaas Schilder, the Man,” by Peter De Klerk, v 10 # 2 (1992): 37-43

Scholte, H. P. (Hendrik Peter) 1805-1868
“Scholte Trivia from Title Abstracts,” by Viola Hugen Van Der Weele, v 15 # 1 (1997): 24

Scholte, Mareah Krantz

Schoonbeek, Marten and Frouwke

Sheboygan County (Wis.) — History

Shipwrecks — Atlantic Ocean

Sierveld, Gerrit

Silk industry — United States
Silverwork — Netherlands

Sioux Center (Iowa) — History

Sjaarda, Klaas Jan, 1862-1943
“Dear Queen . . . ,” by Janet Sjaarda Sheeres, v 14 # 2 (1996): 38-41

South African War, 1899-1902

South Holland (Ill.) — History

South Holland Christian Reformed Church (South Holland, Ill.)

Spoelstra, Peter, 1914-

Storms, James J. H.

Storms, John C.

Strikes and lockouts — Grand Rapids (Mich.)

Sunday

Terra Ceia (N.C.) — History

Theological seminaries — Michigan — Grand Rapids

Theological seminaries — Michigan — Holland

Timmer, Gerrit — 1883

Tornadoes — Michigan — Grand Rapids

Truck Farming
“Coming of Age in the 1940s,” by Claude Venema, v 20 # 2 (2002): 13-20

Tulip Time Festival (Holland, Mich.)

United States — Emigration and immigration
"Castle Garden," by Herbert J. Brinks, v 2 # 1 (1984): 6-8

United States — History — Civil War, 1861-1865

United States Army — Chaplains

Universities and colleges — Michigan — Grand Rapids

Universities and colleges — Michigan — Holland

Vanden Hoek, Teunis Bos
"From South Holland to Orange City, 1882," by Teunis Bos Vanden Hoek, v 4 # 1 (1986): 33-35

Vanden Hoek, Teunis/Dirkje

Vander Aa, Jacob

Vander Heide, Anne, 1907-

Vander Werp, Douwe Johannes, 1811-1876

Vander Werp, Gerritdina Johanna Brummeler, 1830-1911

Van Dyke, Johannes

Van Goor, Kornelis, 1848-1914

Van Groningen, Art, 1932-

Van Raalte, Albertus C. (Albertus Christian), 1811-1876
"From Colony to City: Holland's First Twenty-Five Years," by Robert P. Swierenga, v 16 # 2 (1998): 11-16
"Albertus C. Van Raalte: A Look at the Autumn Years of His Life (1867-1876)," by Michael De Vries, v 19 # 2 (2001): 12-18
"From the Recollections of Gezina Visscher Van Der Haar, 1820-1901," by Gezina Van Der Haar, v 19 # 2 (2001): 19-24
Van Raalte, Christina J., 1815-1871

Veldheer, Jan family

Veneklassen Brickyards

Verduin, Leonard

Vogel, Jan (John), 1839-1907

Volbeda, S. (Samuel), 1881-1953

Voyages and travel — personal narratives


Waalkes, Albert H., 1889-1932

Water supply — Michigan — Grand Rapids

Werkman, Reinder E., 1855-1931
"Reinder E. Werkman—Promoting Western Land for Immigrants," by Donald Van Reken, v 17 # 1 (1999): 36-39

West Sayville (N.Y.) — History

Western Theological Seminary (Holland, Mich.) — History

Whitin Machine Works (Whitinsville, Mass.)

Whitinsville (Mass.) — History
"Recollections of Whitinsville," by Jacob Kooistra, v 12 # 2 (1994): 8-10

Wierenga, H.

William and Mary (Sailing ship)

Winnie (Tex.) — History

Woldring, Eise Harke, 1884-1961
"Factory to Pulpit," by Herbert J. Brinks, v 6 # 2 (1988): 2-15

Women — Netherlands — History

Women immigrants — United States
"Home Builders Meat, Bread, and (sometimes) Oranges!" by Suzanne Sinke, v 14 # 1 (1996): 2-8


World War, 1914-1918

World War, 1914-1918 — Personal narratives, American

World War, 1939-1945

World War, 1939-1945 — Europe

World War, 1939-1945 — Netherlands

World War, 1939-1945 — Pacific Ocean
"WWII: California," by Herbert J. Brinks, v 5 # 2 (1987): 36-45

Jacob and Elsie Noordloos and their children, 1908


**World War, 1939-1945 — Personal narratives**

"WWII: California," by Herbert J. Brinks, v 5 # 2 (1987): 36-45


**Worship**


**Wust, W. C**


**Yankee-Dutch**


**Yff family**


**Zeeland (Mich.) — History**


**Zylstra, Andrew and Anna**

for the future
The topics listed below are being researched, and articles about them will appear in future issues of Origins.

Selections from J. Marion Snapper's Memoirs
Day of Deliverance, March 30, 1945 by Henry Lammers
Odyssey of Lambert and Maria Ubels — the Netherlands to California
The Movies: To Go or Not to Go by Harry Boonstra
Voices from the Free Congregation at Grand Rapids by Walter Lagerwey
Cholera at Sea by Loren Lemmen
The Dutch Come to the Hackensack River Valley by Richard Harms
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