

RAMSEY COUNTY
History
A Publication of the Ramsey County Historical Society

The African-American
Community and the Cuba
Pageant of 1898

Page 15

Winter, 1999

Volume 33, Number 4

Timber, Steel, Law, Politics

St. Paul's Pioneering Lawyers—Page 4



The signing of the Briand-Kellogg Pact in Paris on August 27, 1928. Frank B. Kellogg is seated at the table. This copy of a painting of the historic event is from the Minnesota Historical Society. See article beginning on page 4.

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RAMSEY COUNTY History

Volume 33, Number 4

Winter, 1999

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A Message from the Editorial Board

The winter issue of *Ramsey County History* opens with a fascinating account of how some pioneering lawyers who were involved in cases relating to the timber and steel industries helped shape and change the practice of law and politics in Minnesota. Written by Samuel H. Morgan, a retired St. Paul attorney, this article ranges from President Theodore Roosevelt persuading Frank B. Kellogg and Cordenio A. Severance to represent the government in key anti-trust cases in the first decade of this century to the great 1962 election recount involving incumbent governor Elmer L. Anderson and his challenger, lieutenant governor Karl F. Rolvaag.

David Riehle's article examining the reaction of the African-American community in St. Paul to the fighting in Cuba in 1898 reminds us that the struggle of African-Americans in Minnesota to obtain full civil rights didn't begin in the 1960s. By using information culled from the pages of St. Paul's articulate and influential African-American newspaper, *The Appeal*, Riehle demonstrates that the decision to go to war with Spain in 1898 brought out complex reactions from the local African-American community. What Riehle finds in the coverage of the pageant in *The Appeal* is clear-cut ambivalence as to the meaning of the war for the civil rights of African-Americans in St. Paul.

John M. Lindley, Chair, Editorial Board

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A special thank you goes to the Board of the Ramsey County Commissioners for their continuing and loyal support. Their patronage through the years has given a solid foundation on which to build. Rafael Ortega, chairman; Tony Bennett; Dino Guerin; Susan Haigh; Victoria Reinhardt; Janice Rettman; Jan Wiessner. Special appreciation goes to County Manager Terry Schutten and his staff for their quality professional assistance.

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On December 3, 1998 the society announced the completion of a four-year campaign to raise permanently endowed funds for the society and for its magazine *Ramsey County History*. The campaign goal was set at \$700,000 and actually reached the \$800,000 level. These endowed funds are prudently invested and the earnings used for general operating expenses. A portion of the earnings is returned to the fund to offset inflation. We honor the following campaign contributors:

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Riehle's article about St. Paul's African-
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R.C.H.S.

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