# SOME FAMOUS SWEDES

# SOME FAMOUS SWEDES

PUBLISHED BY
THE SWEDISH TRAFFIC ASSOCIATION
STOCKHOLM, SWEDEN

Gustav Vasa found Sweden a little country on the outskirts of European civilization, the outpost of European culture against the East.

100 years later Sweden was a world power, dictating the peace of Europe.

It is 200 years since Sweden's political greatness died, but after hard struggles she has raised herself and has again become an important member of the nations of the world in material and cultural spheres.

These are a few of the names who have contributed to this development.

# Regents.

#### Birger Jarl († 1266).

One of the most prominent of the Folkunga rulers. Famous law giver, renowned for his »laws for peace and protection», regarding the sanctity of home and women, peaceful conduct at legal assemblies and church service. Another of his radical reforms fixed a sister's inheritance at one half her brother's share.

# Engelbrekt Engelbrektsson († 1436).

One of the noblest figures in the Swedish history of the Middle Ages. He summoned the first Swedish »Riksdag». He was Sweden's greatest champion of liberty, successfully and strenuously fighting the Danish tyranny until he was murdered in 1436.

#### Sten Sture the Elder (1440-1503).

Lord Protector of Sweden. A foresighted and judicious politician. In 1470 he was proclaimed Lord Protector. His most glorious victory was over the Danes at Brunkeberg in 1471.

# Gustav Vasa (1496-1560).

King of Sweden. Kristian II of Denmark had been elected king of Sweden but was thoroughly hated, especially after the monstrous »Blood Bath» of Stockholm where he beheaded a great number of the Swedish nobility. Gustav Vasa, a young man of 23, managed to escape to Dalecarlia where, after fantastic adventures he gained the support of the peasantry. In the ensuing uprising he took command of the collective forces and rid the country of every vestige of foreign power. In 1523 he was proclaimed king. Four years later he

introduced the Protestant religion in Sweden and by this he gave Sweden the chance to fulfil that mission in the history of the world in whose cause his grandson Gustav Adolf was to give his life. His indomitable qualities as a fighter in war and peace, his strength, wisdom and justice made him a true father of his country.

#### Gustav II Adolf (1594-1632).

King of Sweden, 1611-32, and one of the greatest figures of world-history. At the age of 17 he ascended the throne. His father left him three enemies and three wars as an inheritance. After winning these wars he found the greatest mission of his life in store for him, that of coming to the assistance of the German Protestants. Not only was the religious liberty at stake but also political and national freedom since the violent Catholic Reaction was seriously threatening European independence. In 1630 Gustav Adolf plunged into the Thirty Years' War and soon proved himself to be one of the most eminent strategists of all times. He became leader and spokesman for the entire Protestant world. In the famous battle of Breitenfeld he won his first great victory and rent asunder the spiritual and political fetters by which the Papacy and Imperial Despotism threatened to enslave Europe. His brilliant career was short. In 1632 he fell in the battle of Lützen leading his army to victory. The religious independence of Sweden and all Europe was safeguarded by the Peace of Westphalia 1648.

#### Karl X Gustav (1622-1660).

King of Sweden. During his short reign he was busy with wars most of the time. No formal peace had been concluded with Poland and as the Swedish possessions on the eastern side of the Baltic were always threatened by the Polish army, Karl attacked Poland and won the battle of Warsaw in 1656. Before he could follow up his advantage, Denmark declared war on Sweden. By forced marches through Northern Germany he led his army into Denmark, defeated the Danish force on the mainland and conducted his army across the frozen sounds up to Copenhagen, one of the most daring exploits in history. The ensuing peace gave Sweden the provinces of Skåne, Halland, Blekinge and Bohuslän, which have remained Swedish ever since.

#### Karl XI (1655-1697).

King of Sweden 1660-97. Ascended the throne at the age of four. During his minority the country had been led into dangerous alliances with foreign powers, and the national finances were in great disorder. The young king was forced by the circumstances to take the reins into his own hands. The war raging in the beginning of his reign was a struggle for existence on the part of Sweden, but Karl managed to bring it to a successful end. The finances were in a terrible state. In order to restore the prosperity of the country, he carried through the »Reduction» by which great parts of land that the nobility had received from the government during the king's minority, in payment for more or less wellmerited services, were restored to the State. As the national finances were brought into order, prosperity, culture and general education increased during the long period of peace that followed upon the first turbulent part of his reign. His contemporaries were apt to regard him as a harsh ruler who exacted much and punished severely, but few have taken their duties of kingship more to heart and he is now counted among the greatest of Swedish sovereigns.

# Karl XII (1682—1718).

King of Sweden 1697—1718. Hardened by a wise and strict upbringing the young king took charge of the

government at the age of fifteen, and three years later began his career as a soldier. In 1700 he left his capital, that he was never to see again, in order to lead the Swedish forces in the Great Northern War. After victorious campaigns against Denmark, Russia and Poland, in 1708, he was the most powerful monarch in Europe. He then resolved upon the great war against Russia. At the head of his faithful army, which unflinchingly faced death for him, he met the enemy, vastly superior in number, in a series of battles out of which he always emerged victorious thanks to his own fabulous knowledge of strategy and tactics and the unbelievable courage of his soldiers, »the Charles Men» (Karolinerna), until the time when hunger and privation led to the defeat at Poltava in 1709. With the remnant of his army he reached Turkey where he remained for five years endeavouring to persuade the sultan to become his permanent ally against the Russians. After an adventurous ride across Europe, he finally reached his own country in 1714. Sweden, surrounded by enemies and exhausted by the long wars, struggled for her very existence, but Karl not knowing the meaning of discouragement »stamped a new army out of the ground» and set out against Norway, where a bullet ended his life Nov. 30th 1718.

# Gustav III (1746—1792).

King of Sweden 1771—92. In 1772 he overthrew the parliamentary régime and thereby ended the so-called Period of Liberty. Sweden was not far from losing her independence by the unscrupulous intrigues started by members of the Riksdag. King Gustav put a stop to the party strifes and the corruption and by taking all the power in his own hands, he became the hero of his people. But popularity is perishable. Richly endowed by nature Gustav, however, lacked that sta-

bility of character, which is the only quality that gives a lasting prestige to a statesman. The opposition against him increased and in 1792 it led to his assassination.

In Göteborg American citizens have erected a memorial in his honour, bearing the following inscription: »To the memory of Gustavus III the first monarch to extend the hand of friendship to the United States of America at the close of the War of Independence.»

#### Karl XIV Johan (1763-1844).

King of Sweden and Norway. Jean Baptiste Bernadotte, Marshal of France, Prince of Pontecorvo, one of the most prominent generals during the French revolution, was elected crown-prince of Sweden in 1810. Ascended the throne in 1818, founder of the present ruling house of Sweden. After the Napoleonic war he forced Denmark to relinquish Norway. Karl Johan was an important and influential regent. Diligent and energetic, his reign laid the foundation for the uninterrupted peace which Sweden has since enjoyed.

# Politicians and Soldiers.

#### Gyllenstierna, Kristina (1494—1559).

The wife of Sten Sture, the Younger. She shared her husband's cares of government and after his death she was the undisputed leader of the patriotic party. By means of her personality and her courageous defence of the city of Stockholm during the siege, in 1520, Kristina Gyllenstierna has made a name for herself in Swedish history.

# Oxenstierna, Axel (1583-1654).

Chancellor and the most valued councillor of Gustav II Adolf, the greatest statesman in Swedish history and one of the most prominent of Europe in all departments of the administration of the country and above all in the management of foreign politics. After the death of Gustav Adolf he became a guardian of the voung Kristina, the only child of Gustav Adolf, during her minority. With eminent ability and unfailing courage, he accomplished the great work that his royal master had left unfinished. He was far greater than any of his contemporaries and during his long life he did more for his country than any Swedish statesman has done before or since. He was enthusiastic for the idea of establishing a Swedish colony-New Sweden at the mouth of the Delaware River—and out of his own pocket he contributed to this expedition in the year 1637. His enemies never found him irresolute and his own country never appealed to his patriotism and loyalty in vain. Without him a great chapter in the history of Sweden would have remained unwritten.

# Printz, Johan (1592-1663).

Soldier. He was appointed governor of New Sweden, the Swedish colony in North America, in 1642, where he remained until 1653. During the time of Printz' governorship the Swedish colony had its »period of greatness». Printz is buried in the church of Bottnaryd not far from Jönköping.

#### Banér, Johan (1596-1641).

Fieldmarshal. After the death of Gustav Adolf Banér was made commander-in-chief of the Swedish armies in Germany at the most critical period of the Thirty Years' War. By the victory at Wittstock he finally

saved Pomerania for Sweden. The achievement on which his fame rests is, however, the masterly retreat from Torgau when he managed to save his troops from being hemmed in by the enemy, vastly superior in number, and already boasting that Banér at last had been trapped.

#### Torstenson, Lennart (1603-1651).

Fieldmarshal and commander-in-chief of the Swedish armies in Germany 1641—45. One of the greatest generals of that epoch. At times Torstenson had to be carried around on a stretcher during active service on account of sickness, but nevertheless his achievements as a warrior were so remarkable that his great contemporary, the cardinal Richelieu, is said to have exclaimed: »Parbleu! He is almost as clever as I am!»

#### De la Gardie, Magnus Gabriel (1622-1686).

Statesman, but most noted as a patron of arts and science and justly deserves the name »the Maecenas of Sweden».

#### Dahlbergh, Erik (1625-1703).

Fieldmarshal, one of the world's greatest military engineers. He took part in the Polish and Danish campaigns of Karl X Gustav and his strategy contributed greatly to the victory of Warsaw in 1656. It was also principally on account of his advice that the king undertook the famous march across the frozen straits of the Bält to Copenhagen in 1658. He was also an architect of no mean repute and his work »Suecia antiqua et hodierna» is the foremost source of information on Swedish architecture of the seventeenth century.

#### Stenbock, Magnus (1663-1717).

Fieldmarshal, one of the most able generals during the Great Northern War. Next to Karl XII he is the greatest figure of the Caroline era.

#### Horn, Arvid (1664-1742).

Prominent statesman. After the death of Karl XII he became the leader of Swedish politics and did much for the revival of the country after the lengthy wars.

#### von Platen, Baltzar (1766-1829).

Statesman. The Göta Canal, the connecting water-way between Stockholm and Göteborg, was constructed on his initiative. He is also the founder of the Motala machine works. He did much for strengthening the Swedish military forces.

#### Hierta, Lars Johan (1801-1872).

Politician, journalist, business man. Founder of the modern Swedish press by his liberal newspaper, »Aftonbladet» in 1830.

#### Branting, Hjalmar (1860-1925).

The foremost leader of the Swedish Social Democrats, journalist and politician. He was prime minister twice, as well as minister of finance and minister of foreign affairs. He devoted himself to foreign politics and problems and was a prominent member in the council of the League of Nations. In 1921 he was awarded half of the Nobel Prize for work in the Cause of Peace.

# Theologists.

# St. Bridget (Birgitta) (1303-1373).

The greatest poetical genius of Scandinavia during the Middle Ages. Through her »Revelations» she has achieved international fame. In 1349 she made a pilgrimage to Rome and was granted permission by the Pope to found a convent in Vadstena. According to her first plans the order was to be exclusively for nuns. The most unique feature of this order, namely the organization of a mixed brother- and sisterhood, was to be found already in its first statutes. It was called the Bridgittine Order and around 70 convents were erected in different parts of Europe. In 1372 she made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land and returned to Rome the following year where she died in 1373. She was canonized in 1391.

#### Ulfsson, Jakob († 1521).

Archbishop. Is considered to have introduced the art of printing in Sweden. Interested in religion and the liberal arts, he worked hard for the foundation of the university of Uppsala.

#### Olaus Petri (1493-1552).

Called Mäster Olof, a follower of Luther and the founder of the Lutheran Church in Sweden. During the reign of Gustav Vasa he struggled eagerly for the Reformation, worked out a new church organization and ritual and wrote a book of homilies. His terse language became the basis of the Swedish literary language and his »Swedish Chronicale» has been of great importance for the writing of national Swedish history.

#### Rudbeckius, Johannes (1581-1646).

Theologian university man, bishop. Founded the first Protestant Gymnasium in the country, and the first school for girls. Rudbeckius is the most prominent figure in the struggle of the Swedish church for independence and public education.

#### Svedberg, Jesper (1653-1735).

Bishop, one of the most prominent men of the Church during that period. Reorganized the Book of Common Prayer, worked for a revision of the translation of the Bible, and for an orthographical reform, etc.

#### Söderblom, Nathan (1866-1931).

Archbishop, authority on ecclesiastical history, member of the Swedish Academy. Received the Nobel Prize for work in the Cause of Peace. As Swedish archbishop his influence has reached far beyond the boundaries of Sweden and in his devotion to international religious problems he has proven himself among the greatest men of the Church in this day and age. The Ecumenical Convention in Stockholm, in 1925, was his idea. Honorary doctor of a number of universities abroad.

#### Scientists.

#### Stiernhielm, Georg (1598-1672).

Poet and scientist. He has been called the »Father of Swedish Poetry». His literary activity embraced wide spheres, he was as renowned in philology as in archeology.

#### Rudbeck, Olof (1630-1702).

The most versatile of Swedish scientists during the »period of political greatness». He discovered the lymphatic vessels of the liver in 1651, founded the first botanical garden of Uppsala University, compiled a gigantic encyclopedia on botany with thousands of illustrations, improved the public instruction and established a school of technology. Rudbeck has gained much fame also for his great work »Atlantica».

#### Hjärne, Urban (1641-1724).

Physician, chemist, naturalist. He worked hard for the development of the medical science and established a Chemical laboratory in Stockholm, where he discovered formic acid.

# Swedenborg, Emanuel (1688-1772).

Philosopher, scientist, mystic, founder of a new religious sect. Next to Linné the best known Swede of that age. A most remarkable man, »a tremendous soul», according to Emerson, unappreciated by his contemporaries, only recently discovered and as yet not fully comprehended. His learning was phenomenal and he had a rare capacity of penetrating the problems of nature and the mystical depths of the human soul. According to circumstances he became a visionary, a broken genius, lost in the maze of religious speculations, a man that has been looked upon as half-crazy. But in spite of this he has done mankind great services and he will remain a Titan of intellect for all times.

#### von Linné, Carl (1707-1778).

Botanist. This great scientist belongs to the same class as Newton, Locke, Harvey, Darwin and the other great names in the fields of Natural Science. He was known by all Europe as the »King of Flowers». He spent most of his life as a professor at Uppsala where he gathered pupils from all parts of Europe around him. After his death his valuable herbarium was taken to England, where it is still to be found, dearly treasured in the Linnean Society.

#### Bergman, Torbern (1735—1785).

Well-known astronomer, mineralogist and chemist. Pioneer in the field of analytical chemistry. Founder of the Cosmographical Society in Uppsala in 1758.

#### Scheele, Carl Vilhelm (1742-1786).

Chemist, one of the founders of organic chemistry. In spite of very simple technical resources he made many exceedingly important discoveries, such as oxygen, nitrogen, chlorine, manganese, barium, molybdenum, and wolfram. He pointed out the bleaching capacity of chlorine, analyzed certain phosphorescent elements, the effects on silver chloride by the sun's rays, etc. He discovered a series of organic acids important for physiological chemistry.

#### Ling, Per Henrik (1776—1839).

Poet, member of the Swedish Academy, founder of the Central Gymnastic Institute in Stockholm. He reformed gymnastics, creating his own system, known all over the world as »Swedish gymnastics».

#### Berzelius, Jöns Jakob (1779-1848).

Physician and chemist. Founder of the Swedish Medical Society. He has exercised a remarkable influence upon the development of chemistry and related branches of the science as mineralogy and organic chemistry. Chemical symbols and formulas now in use were invented by him.

#### Geijer, Erik Gustav (1783-1847).

The greatest historical writer, philosopher, poet, orator and musical composer of Sweden.

#### Boström, Kristofer Jakob (1797—1860).

The most independent of Swedish philosophers. He called his philosophical system »rational idealism». It was related to Platonism and only acknowledges realities of a spiritual nature, God and His ideas. Man is an idea of God. The realm of mind is the spiritual reality, imperfectly grasped by limited human understanding. His ethics are closely related to those of Kant.

# Ångström, Anders Jonas (1814-1874).

Physicist, dealing mainly with analysis of the spectrum, which won him fame both at home and abroad.

#### Hazelius, Artur (1833—1901).

Philologist, founder of the Northern Museum and one of the finest open air museums in the world, »Skansen» in Stockholm. The importance of this work, in collecting and recording old Swedish culture can as yet hardly be estimated.

# Nordenskiöld, Adolf Erik (1839-1901).

Scientist and explorer, member of the Swedish Academy. He led the arctic expeditions to Spitzbergen in 1864—73. In 1878—79 he circumnavigated Europe and Asia in the steamship Vega, passing along the north coast of Siberia and through Bering Straits, the so-called North East Passage.

#### Montelius, Oscar (1843-1921).

One of the world's greatest archeologists. An authority on history of civilization and prehistoric chronology. Member of the Swedish Academy.

#### Brinell, Johan August (1849-1925).

Metallurgist. His extensive research work in the treatment of steel and inventions in testing apparatus have contributed much to the development of modern methods in the production and utilization of steel.

#### Arrhenius, Svante (1859-1927).

Eminent physicist and chemist. Awarded the Nobel Prize in 1903 for theory concerning the dissociation of electrolytes. Important works on meteorology and the therapeutical qualities of serums.

#### Hedin, Sven (1865-).

World-renowned explorer, member of the Swedish Academy. He has explored and mapped vast regions of Central Asia, especially Tibet, discovered the sources of the Brahmaputra River and the mountain range of Trans-Himalaya. In 1927 he set forth on a new exploring expedition to the desert regions of Central Asia. This expedition has as yet not returned.

#### Cassel, Gustav (1866-).

Mathematician, authority on political economy. Has written the »Theoretical Social Economy». He has won world-fame for his solutions of the money problems during and after the World War, before the League of Nations.

#### Svedberg, The (1884-).

Chemist, received the Nobel Prize in 1926 for researches in physical chemistry.

#### Siegbahn, Manne (1886-).

Physical chemist, awarded the Nobel Prize in 1925 for X-Ray researches. Invited by the National Research Council of Washington and visited a number of American universities in 1924—25.

#### De Geer, Gerard (1858-).

Geologist, professor. Known for his method of determining the chronology of the geological period succeeding the Glacial Period.

#### Authors and Poets.

# Bellman, Carl Michael (1740-1795).

One of the finest and most original of Sweden poets. In 1767 he started his most famous collection of poems, "The Epistles of Fredman", followed later on by "The Songs of Fredman". Both of these works he set to music by rearranging contemporary airs and melodies. His way of describing the life and temperament of the Rococo period as well as the surroundings of his beloved Stockholm is unsurpassed in Swedish literature.

# Wallin, Johan Olof (1779-1839).

Archbishop, poet, member of the Swedish Academy. Devoted much of his time to the public instruction and is our greatest hymnologist. The prayer-book of the year 1819 was compiled by him. He was the greatest religious speaker of his age. Well-known poems by him are: "The Angel of Death", "A toast to George Washington".

#### Tegnér, Esaias (1782-1846).

Bishop and poet, member of the Swedish Academy. One of the greatest of Swedish poets and furthermore the most brilliant of Swedish orators and letterwriters. The language and expression of his writings give proofs of his God-inspired intellect; his words charm, fascinate, capture, dazzle the reader in the most arresting way. His most renowned works are the lyrical epic »Frithiof's saga», translated into many languages —30 editions—and »Svea», a poem of flaming patriotism.

#### Bremer, Fredrika (1801-1865).

Authoress, philanthropist. She is the founder of the Emancipation of women in Sweden.

#### Runeberg, Johan Ludvig (1804-1877).

Swedish-Finish poet, lived in Finland which at the time of his birth was Swedish possession. As an epic poet he is unapproached in Swedish literature. »The Songs of Fänrik Stål», episodes from the last war with Russia, is a collection of poems of exquisite beauty and grandeur.

#### Wennerberg, Gunnar (1817-1901).

Poet, composer, politician, member of the Swedish Academy. By his ingenious duet-cycle »Gluntarna» he has immortalized the life of the Swedish student in song.

#### Rydberg, Viktor (1828-1895).

Poet, writer, philosopher. His poetry is an expression of high idealism expressed in an exceedingly beautiful form. Among his works are the adventurous romance »The Freebooter of the Baltic», the brilliant tale from the days of the Classics »The Last of Athenians», »Poems», »Roman Days».

#### Key, Ellen (1849-1926).

Authoress, psychologist, social and ethical thinker. Her ethical and sociological writings stress the psychic differences between man and woman. Her theses concerning love and marriage roused violent opposition.

#### Strindberg, August (1849-1912).

One of the most remarkable names in Swedish literature, where he is practically without parallel. Abroad he represents Swedish literature as none other, and his dramas are being staged in an ever increasing number. He broke new ground as a novelist and as a dramatist and he reflects pretty nearly all the different opinions that affected the latter part of last century. Among his masterpieces are the dramas »Mäster Olof», »Gustav Vasa», »Easter», and the novels »The Red Room», »Married», etc.

#### Lagerlöf, Selma (1858—).

Authoress, winner of the Nobel Prize in 1909, member of the Swedish Academy, achieved worldfame in 1891 with her »Saga of Gösta Berling». Her writings breathe with a deep love of the native soil, a bright, deeply religious optimism which has its origin in a harmonious personality. The most remarkable of her works are »Legend of a Manor House», »Jerusalem», »Thy soul shall bear witness» and »The Adventures of Nils». Most of her writings have been translated into most foreign languages.

#### von Heidenstam, Verner (1859-).

Author, member of the Swedish Academy, winner of the Nobel prize in 1916. His works of later years express an ardent patriotism originating in a deep love for his native country. »Pilgrimage and Wanderyears», »The Charles Men» and »The Swedes and their Chieftains», belong to his most famed works.

#### Fröding, Gustav (1860—1911).

Poet. His volume of poems called »Guitar and Concertina» has made him one of the most popular of Swedish lyrical poets by its excellent style and humour. Many of his poems have been set to music.

#### Karlfeldt, Erik Axel (1864-1931).

Poet, member of the Swedish Academy. Nobel prize winner in 1931. His poetry is characterized by humour, perfect rythm and exquisite rhymes. »Fridolin's Songs», »Fridolin's Pleasure-garden», »Flora and Bellona».

#### Artists.

# Tessin, Nicodemus, the Elder (1615-1681).

Of north German origin, the most prominent and active architect of Sweden of his period. The Royal Palace of Drottningholm, the Castle of Skokloster, the cathedral of Kalmar designed by him.

# Ehrenstrahl, David Klöker (1629-1698).

German-Swedish painter of portraits and battle-scenes. Many of his pictures are to be found in the Palace of Drottningholm and the Assembly Hall of the Nobility in Stockholm.

# Tessin, Nicodemus, the Younger (1654-1728).

Internationally renowned and the greatest of Swedish architects. Principle works: Royal Palace of Stockholm, the Tessin palace, plans for the rebuilding of the Louvre in Paris. He also planned several gardens, the most remarkable being that of Drottningholm.

# Tessin, Karl Gustav (1695-1770).

Statesman, patron of art. He took a prominent part in Swedish politics and was our greatest orator of that age. A great part of his art collection is now to be found in the National Museum.

### Pilo, Karl Gustav (1711-1793).

Portrait painter. His »Coronation of Gustav III» in the National Museum of Stockholm is an historical painting of distinction.

#### Roslin, Alexander (1718-1797).

Painter of portraits, famous for his masterly portrayal of character. »Gustav III», the »Duke of Praslin», the »Jennings family», are fine examples of his work.

# Sergel, Johan Tobias (1740-1814).

The greatest name in Swedish sculpture. His most famous works are: »Mars and Venus», »Amor and Psyche», »Gustav III» and the sculptured ornaments of the altar in the Adolf Fredrik church. Sergel has also made a number of portrait busts and was an excellent caricaturist.

# von Breda, Karl Fredrik (1759-1818).

One of the greatest portrait painters of Sweden. He was the favourite painter of the court and the aristocracy and one of the chief representatives of the romantic style.

#### Lind, Jenny (1820-1887).

Celebrated singer. She was received everywhere with tremendous enthusiasm. The »Swedish Nightingale» was universally acknowledged as one of the finest singers in the world.

#### Söderman, August (1832-1876).

The most genuine and original of Swedish musical composers. Amongst his most admired compositions are the »Peasant Wedding» and his ballads »The Pilgrimage» and »The Black Knight».

#### Nilsson, Kristina (1843—1921).

Countess Casa di Miranda, celebrated opera singer. Made her first appearance in Paris, in 1864, and has since then appeared in Sweden as well as in most of the European countries and America. At the first performance of the Metropolitan Opera in New York she sang the part of Margareta in »Faust».

#### von Rosen, Georg (1843-1923).

Portrait painter, also famous for his marvellous manner of depicting scenes from history with force and historical accuracy. »Erik XIV, Karin Månsdotter and Göran Persson», etc.

#### Hasselberg, Per (1850—1894).

One of the greatest Swedish sculptors. Influenced by the accuracy and delicacy of the French school he depicts the female form in a pure and exquisite manner. »The Snowdrop», »The Frog», »The Waterlily».

#### Larsson, Carl (1853-1919).

Artist, one of the chief representatives of national Swedish painting during the later part of the nineteenth and the earlier part of the twentieth centuries. Although a mural painter of some note, he has won his greatest popularity by his admirable scenes of domestic life. A style all his own, combining strong individuality, clear, bright colours, great delicacy of treatment and fine technic skill.

#### Liljefors, Bruno (1860—).

One of the most prominent painters of animals and natural scenery of our times. A great number of his most famous works are to be found in the »Thiel Gallery», Stockholm.

#### Zorn, Anders (1860-1920).

Artist, undoubtedly the best known Swedish painter abroad. He has depicted customs of the people, studies of the nude, and portraits, with great cleverness. He excelled in the treatment of light and shade, and an extraordinary sense of form combined with an amazing technic. He was a sculptor of no mean repute and one of the leading etchers of his age. In the United States Zorn has painted many portraits of politicians, business men and their wives.

#### Eugen (1865-).

Prince of Sweden. One of the foremost Swedish landscape painters, also prominent as fresco painter. »Hoarfrost» in the Royal Dramatic Theatre, a series of frescos in the Town Hall of Stockholm, the »Royal Palace», »The Big Cloud», considered by the prince as his best paintings, etc.

#### Östberg, Ragnar (1866—).

Prominent architect with international renown. With great ingenuity, originality and artistic imagination he combines a fine sense of form, flexibility, as well as strength of will, fearlessness and learning. Principal constructions: The Stockholm Town Hall (1911—23), described by foreign architects as the most remarkable building in recent years, the Patent Office, both in Stockholm, and the Crematorium in Hälsingborg.

#### Stenhammar, Vilhelm (1871—1927).

Composer, one of the foremost Swedish pianists, orchestra leader. Well-known for his popular anthem »Sverige» (Sweden).

#### Alfvén, Hugo (1872-).

Composer, orchestra leader. Since 1910 »Director Musices» at the Uppsala university. His masterly compositions include symphonies, cantatas, romances and quartets for male voices.

#### Milles, Carl (1875-).

Sculptor. The most internationally famed sculptor of Sweden. His abundance of original ideas, sensitive feeling, bold mastery of form have enabled him to accomplish a quantity of sculptural works in different materials and of diverse subjects with an inexhaustible imagination and a keen joy in creation. »Sten Sture the Elder», the »Folkunga fountain», the »Sunsinger» and »Gustav Vasa» are a few of his many well-known masterpieces.

# Commercial and Industrial Leaders.

# De Geer, Louis, the Elder (1587-1652).

»The father of Swedish industry.» By improvements in connection with the iron industry he opened new vistas for the economical activities of the country. At the same time he took a keen interest in the development of Swedish foreign trade. He was a great favourite of king Gustav II Adolf who always gave his support to all his enterprises.

# Palmstruch, Johan (1611-1671).

Founder of Swedish banking. Obtained the privilege to establish loan and discount banks in Stockholm and other cities during a period of 30 years. In 1668 the Palmstruch bank was replaced by the »Riksens Ständers Bank», the present Bank of Sweden.

#### Alströmer, Jonas (1685-1761).

Manufacturer. Made a fortune as shipbuilder in England, returned to Sweden in 1722 and devoted himself to the creation of the Swedish textile industry. Always enterprising and full of new ideas he did much to advance Swedish industry. It was he who introduced the potato plant from America to Sweden.

# Ekman, Gustav (1804-1876).

Manufacturer. The new type of »balling furnace», constructed in 1843, is the most important of his inventions. In addition Ekman has been the originator of many valuable improvements in connection with the iron industry.

# Wallenberg, André Oskar (1816-1886).

Banker, politician, founded Stockholms Enskilda Bank in 1856. He was active in the reorganization of banking and took a prominent part in the practical sides of commercial life.

#### Ljungberg, Erik Johan (1843-1915).

Metallurgist, manufacturer. During more than one third of a century he was the leader of »Stora Kopparbergs Bergslag», one of the most extensive of Swedish industrial enterprises.

# Broström, Dan (1870-1925).

Ship-owner and president of the Swedish American Line from its very beginning. Broström was the greatest ship-owner in the history of Swedish navigation, and at his death he had acquired a leading position within his particular domain. His interest in commercial matters extended to several enterprises closely connected with maritime commerce such as marine insurance, shipbuilding, etc.

# Inventors and Engineers.

#### Polhem, Kristofer (1661-1751).

Renowned inventor. Planned the canal construction between the North Sea and Lake Väner, invented burglar-proof padlocks—which became models for all modern padlocks— shaft-coupling, textile machinery and so on. Polhem is also prominent as a scientific writer and was one of the first Swedes who busied himself with economical-political questions.

#### Celsius, Anders (1701—1744).

Prominent astronomer. Chiefly recognized for inventing the centigrade thermometer. The first observatory in Sweden was built at Uppsala in 1742 on his initiative.

#### Rinman, Sven (1720-1792).

Metallurgist. Worked for the advancement of the Swedish mining and iron industries. He improved the methods of steel production and iron refining.

#### af Chapman, Fredrik Henrik (1721-1808).

Shipbuilder and admiral of the naval dockyards, has gained considerable distinction in the creation of the Swedish navy and was a pioneer in naval architecture. Published in 1768 the famous collection of engravings »Architectura navalis mercatoria.»

#### Owen, Samuel (1774-1854).

Of English origin. He built the first steamships in Sweden in 1816—17. He is considered as the founder of the Swedish mechanical industry.

# Ericson, Nils (1802—1870).

Engineer, brother of John Ericsson. He built the Swedish State Railways in 1854—62 and led the reconstruction-works of the Trollhättan Canal.

#### Ericsson, John (1803-1889).

Inventor. Trained as an army officer, he never lost his intense interest in mechanical studies and experiments. Failing to arouse any interest in his inventions in Sweden, he left the army and went to England, where he lived from 1826 to 1839, distinguishing himself as a railway engineer, competing with Stephenson for the honour of constructing the first successful steam locomotive. Failing to get the necessary encouragement for his new steamship propeller, he left England, and went to America. In the United States his genius was recognized and appreciated. He received the necessary support in order to exploit his many inventions. In 1848 the first propeller-driven warship, the »Princeton», was launched, an event that absolutely revolutionized the navy. During the Civil War his famous »Monitor» gave the Northern States naval supremacy. The battle of Hampton Roads between the »Merrimac» and the »Monitor» was perhaps the most glorious moment in the life of John Ericsson. After his death an American man-of-war brought his coffin back to Sweden.

#### Lundström, Johan Edvard (1815—1888).

Inventor and manufacturer. In 1845 he founded the Jönköping match-factory, which under his leadership grew to be the largest of its kind in the world. Lundström has invented the nonphosphorous safety match.

#### Göransson, Göran Fredrik (1819—1900).

Industrialist, inventor, leading man in Swedish steel industry, among other things by his improvements in the Bessemer process. Founder of the Sandviken steelworks.

#### Nobel, Alfred (1833-1896).

Chemist, inventor of dynamite and other important inventions in this field, conducted important research work on smokeless powder, etc. He held 120 English and about 30 Swedish letters of patents. Nobel amassed a great fortune which he donated for the establishment of the Nobel Foundation.

# Ekman, Carl Daniel (1845-1904).

Engineer, made the first practical experiments of the sulphite cellulose process in 1874 and established factories in England, France and Italy.

# Ericsson, Lars Magnus (1846—1926).

Designed and constructed the first modern type of telephone system and introduced a series of inventions in the practical details of telephone apparatus, many of which have become models for the entire telephone system of the world.

#### de Laval, Gustav (1845-1913).

Engineer, inventor and manufacturer. He became renowned for his development of the steam turbine industries. One of his inventions was the flexible shaft for turbines. The de Laval milk separator is used all over the world.

# Johansson, Carl Edvard (1864-).

Inventor of a measuring system universally used in manufacturing »the C. E. Johansson system».

# Dalén, Gustav (1869-).

Engineer and inventor. Was awarded the Nobel Prize for Physics in 1912. He has won world-fame by his Aga-light, used all over the world for lighthouses and signal purposes of different kinds. His greatest invention is probably the so-called »sunvalve» which automatically turns on the light at nightfall, extinguishing it at dawn. A series of inventions by him in the same field has added to the perfection of the Aga-

lights. In 1913 he was dangerously injured while experimenting by an explosion and has since then been blind. In spite of this he has continued his work with rare energy as technicist and leader of the world industry he has created, the »Svenska AB Gasaccumulator» (AGA).

#### Kjellin, Fredrik Adolf (1872-1910).

Engineer, inventor. Famed for his construction of the epochmaking »Kjellin Electrical Steelsmelting furnace».

#### Alexanderson, Ernst Fredrik Verner (1879-).

Engineer, inventor, lives in U. S. A. Has gained world-fame by a number of ingenious electrical inventions, among which are the »Alexanderson single-phase motor», a »phase converter», the »Alexanderson hight tension altermotor». Even more important are his technical inventions in connection with radio.

# CONTENTS

Regents				•			•			×				٠	
Politicians and Soldiers						•		٠	•	٠	٠	٠	٠		9
Theologists	٠.	٠.					٠	•		•		•			1
Scientists														•	I
Authors and Poets				٠			•	٠		•	•		٠	٠	I
Artists				٠				٠	•		٠	•	•		23
Commercial and Industri	ial	L	ea	de	er	S		٠					•		20
Inventors and Engineer	·s				*:			•					•	115	28

· Printed in Sweden



CENTRALTRYCKERIET STOCKHOLM 1933