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## Book Reviews

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BOOK REVIEWS

*Higher Education and Florida's Future*. 2 volumes. (Gainesville, Florida: University of Florida Press, 1956. Vol. I, *Recommendations and General Staff Report*. By A. J. Brumbaugh and Myron R. Blee. xxviii, 87pp. Tables and index. \$1.50. Vol. II, *Florida's Economy - Past Trends and Prospects for 1970*. Prepared by the Economic Research Staff, Wylie Kilpatrick, Coordinator. xii, 180pp. Tables and index. \$2.50.)

THE NEED FOR LONG-RANGE planning for higher education - heretofore shunted aside while attention was given to "more important things" - finally has been recognized. Recognition has come in a two-volume set of books entitled "Higher Education and Florida's Future," published by the University of Florida Press in Gainesville, Florida. Volume I, "Recommendations and General Staff Report," contains an up-to-date survey of facts about Florida's colleges and universities and offers a guide for expanding higher education facilities to meet increasing demands by a skyrocketing state population. It embodies the final report of the Council for the Study of Higher Education in Florida, a governor-appointed committee, and was compiled by A. J. Brumbaugh, staff director of the Council, and Myron R. Blee, assistant director. Retail price is \$1.50.

Volume II presents a broader scope, explaining "Florida's Economy - Past Trends and Prospects for 1970." The author is Wylie Kilpatrick, coordinator of a special Council Economic Research Staff. It sells for \$2.50. Both are well worth the money.

What provisions can and must be made to educate the bumper crop of World War II babies who rapidly are approaching "college age?" And how can we take care of the sun-seekers who cross the border by the thousands each year to make their home in Florida? What about adult education? Volume I can give most of the answers. It discusses present and emerging needs, programs and facilities, development and expansion, financing, and priorities. A detailed appendix listing acknowledgments of contributors to staff studies graphically illustrates the lengths the Council went to in an effort to obtain accurate and detailed in-

formation. It deals with questions often wondered but seldom asked, such as the role of junior colleges in the community, when and where more colleges and universities should be constructed, and the functions of the State Board of Control which formulates policies for state colleges.

Volume II makes an excellent textbook, not only for educators but for industrialists, businessmen and out-of-state "prospects" looking at Florida as a home and workground as well as a playground. Problems concerning state population and income, development of natural resources, use of human resources, growth of industries and influences on production and consumption are dealt with concisely but adequately. Both state and national experts have been recruited to contribute their findings and viewpoints. Their work makes for fairly easy reading, despite the multitude of statistics liberally sprinkled throughout each chapter. They seem to catch the pulse of excitement in exploring new "frontiers" and dare the reader not to be interested in what the future holds.

You may not skim through either book as rapidly as you might a novel, but for the most part, you will find they avoid the dry, wordy phraseology that too often is synonymous with books on education or economics. For professionals in either field, both books offer gratifying details on the Who, What, When, Where and Why. For interested novices, they serve as a professional introduction. This set on "Higher Education and Florida's Future" could well become the state's "crystal ball."

DORIS MCABEE

*Education Editor, Miami Herald*

*The Seminole Trail.* By Dee Dunsing. (New York, Longmans, Green and Company, 1956. 211 pp. Illustrated by Larry Toschik. \$3.00.)

The strange tropical and sub-tropical nature of Florida and the violent drama of the Seminole Indian Wars have long been the subject of fiction. At first, they provided material for boys' books such as the avidly read Kirk Munroe books, especially *Flamingo Feather*. Charles H. Coe's classic, *Red Patriots*, was

written for adults but read by boys. Of recent years writers of adult historical fiction have re-discovered Florida history in which the violence is heightened by flaming sex and more tepid romance. In most of these, with the exception of *Red Patriots*, the Indians were either noble savages or black-hearted villains. The backgrounds of all the action by which white Americans sought to remove the Indians from Florida lands suddenly become valuable, were only sketchily indicated.

It is very refreshing, therefore, to read Dee Dunsing's story of a white boy and his Indian friend, in the time of the first two Indian wars, and find it direct, clear, not overdramatized, but above all, accurate. The author has spared no pains to get to authentic source material, such as the all-important Sprague, and personal narratives of army men taking part in the campaigns. She makes the progress of that confused and emotional time clearer than it must have been then. Her young hero, Rod Wheeler, is a very real young man serving as an army scout, a Florida boy from Tampa Bay with an Indian friend, so that his insight covers both the white and the torn and difficult Indian points of view.

But I think this book is almost the first I have seen since Giddings' greatly revealing *Exiles of Florida*, including several histories and much recent romance, which presents plainly and fairly the often wilfully neglected fact that the war was forced by slave-owners of Georgia and Alabama in an attempt to get back slaves who had escaped to freedom with the free Indians in Spanish Florida.

When Florida became an American territory settlers pushed down into cultivated Indian country and insisted the Indians be moved to Indian territory. Andrew Jackson, who had been first governor and bitter Indian hater, helped send the Army into Florida to back up the white claims to land and slaves. In spite of the shameful American record of broken treaties and flags of truce ignored by the succession of generals whose temperament controlled American policy, many more of the illusive and disillusioned Indians would have gone west; but they insisted their Negro allies must be treated as free men and prisoners of war and allowed to go west also.

The slave holders wanted the escaped slaves back. So the long, bungling, expensive, badly prepared and managed war went

on until the United States government was glad to have to send the troops to the threatened Mexican border, leaving Florida to carry on its own war with the Indians in the Everglades. The boy Rod Wheeler takes part in several well-studied engagements, from Withlacoochee to Okeechobee. He is in or near St. Augustine, that bustling metropolis, when the over-familiar incidents happen, the violated flag of truce that brought in the Indians, the escape of Coacoochee from Ft. Marion and the resumption of fighting.

Perhaps for a boy's action story there is too much exposition of history. The plot is less engrossing, but the book gains stature from the direct presentation of authentic history. It might well be used in the schools as supplementary reading, or by adults who want a simple and unvarnished introduction to Florida's drama, which does not insult the intelligence or depend on sex to make it valuable.

MARJORY STONEMAN DOUGLAS