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## Book Reviews

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*Sam Houston With the Cherokees, 1829-1833.* By Jack Gregory and Rennard Strickland. (Austin: University of Texas Press, 1967. xx, 206 pp. Introduction, illustrations, index, sources. \$6.00.)

This work is the longest and yet, considering its size, the most interesting footnote this reviewer has had access to. Vast research has produced profound minutia on the existence of Sam Houston during his time with Cherokee friends and relatives, the authors having gathered opinions and ideas on those years as expressed by every human being capable of an opinion or idea. An excellent conclusion follows 154 pages of footnoted footnotes.

Some adverse criticism must be made. Unaccountably for authors of a book-size footnote, there is an inconsistency that seems unusual: in some instances identical sources following consecutively are not abbreviated though the recitation of the source takes a line and a half, while in other cases abbreviations are used so it would seem not to be a matter of principle. The sources are so numerous that consistent condensation would seem to have been advantageous. Readers will be surprised at the unique style of combining personal acknowledgments with the footnotes. Innovations of this sort should be heartily condoned if they add clarification or reader interest, but if that was the intent here, it fell short of the mark.

This extended footnote on Sam Houston will doubtless be worthwhile and much sought-after by those involved in future research on his life during the years 1829-1833.

FRANK LAUMER

*Dade City, Florida*

*The Role of the State Legislatures in the Confederacy.* By May Spencer Ringold. (Athens: University of Georgia Press, 1966. viii, 141 pp. Bibliographical notes, index. \$5.00.)

The programs of the secession conventions and legislatures of the eleven seceded southern states meeting the constitutional, statutory, military, and economic crises of 1861-1865 provide the

subject for Professor Spencer's book. The author disclaims direct concern with questions of state rights or with evaluation of Confederate polity. Rather the focus of the work is on the "practical aspects of state rights in action" coping with the difficulties facing all the Confederate states and ultimately failing to meet the needs of body and morale of the southern people.

The activities of secession conventions and legislatures in revising constitutions, organizing or reorganizing governmental institutions, and providing local defense mechanisms are presented in a tightly constructed account. State legislative cooperation and lack of cooperation with the Confederate government in mobilizing and equipping troops, in conscripting men, impressing property and labor, and in financing the total war effort are related state by state. The author presents the efforts of the state legislatures to satisfy internal demands for necessary laws, to expand banking operations, to counter the effects of the blockade, to control speculation, and to correct the under-production of food. Trading and manufacturing enterprises and railroad building activities of the states are explored. Professor Spencer concludes from this aspect of her study: "In grappling with economic problems, state legislators and governors showed courage and initiative. . . . Deterioration of morale among civilians was as pronounced in those states with active economic programs as in those whose legislators and governors hesitated to undertake new or expanded economic activities." The author examines the trials of state lawmakers in endeavoring to undertake the burdens of control of Negro labor, the maintenance of civil government in areas threatened by enemy invasion and the provision of debtor relief. Measures to provide absentee voting privileges for soldiers, state hospitals for wounded and disabled servicemen, and support for indigent families of those fighting are covered in the investigation.

Professor Spencer has performed an incredibly impressive task of condensation and research. She writes with admirable organization and brevity; her bibliographical notes will prove invaluable to students of all facets of the Confederacy. In the light of the careful and exhaustive perusal of source material revealed by the bibliographical notes and by the book, one almost wishes one were not a Floridian and therefore duty

bound to note that Florida's Governor Madison S. Perry is consistently listed - even in the index - as Milton S. Perry.

DAISY PARKER

*Florida State University*

*The United States Army and Reconstruction, 1865-1877.* By James E. Sefton. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1967. xx, 284 pp. Preface, illustrations, appendixes, bibliography index. \$8.00.)

This book is a necessary addition to any library of Reconstruction studies. Because of Professor Sefton's thorough research and his continual questioning of evidence we have for the first time a satisfactory study of the role of the U. S. Army as an occupation force in the South. The situation was unique, and Sefton describes clearly how well the army was able to perform its difficult duty. He explains the functions and actions of such military agencies as the provost court and the military commission. He illuminates most clearly the peculiar position of the army and the problems posed by northern policy disputes. He clarifies the relationships between civil and military authorities which the demands of necessity and the reactions of common sense evolved.

It is fortunate that this book appears in the same year as the periodic revival of the movie "Gone With the Wind." There is much corrective here for the views of military occupation which Margaret Mitchell and others almost masochistically present. Only rarely did the army oppress anyone in the South; most often military commanders took a restrictive view of their duties and tried to cooperate and support civil authorities. They carried out their orders judiciously and discreetly whenever possible. Army commanders were given considerable latitude in interpreting orders from Washington. Usually when they asked for instructions, Washington replied, "Do what you think best." What they most often thought best was to keep the peace, and to do so it was necessary to maintain harmony with local officials and the local populace.

While suggesting that the army usually showed restraint in its southern dealings, Sefton still disagrees with John Hope Franklin that the army was too small materially to affect conditions. Size, Sefton points out, was not the measure of influence. Where the blue uniform appeared, order generally prevailed. The author also rejects positions taken by others of the neo-radical school of historians. He is continually at odds with authors Benjamin Thomas and Harold Hyman over their interpretations of civil-military relationships both in Washington and in Dixie. Sefton is much more kind to Andrew Johnson than they are. He is more willing to accept the views of Gideon Welles than other historians have been recently, although Sefton retains some suspicions.

The author's obvious view is that the mildest form of Reconstruction would have been the best. Such a conservative attitude leads him to reasonable judgments in many instances. He correctly points out that it was bad policy to use Negro troops to occupy defeated Secessia. He suggests that southern-based soldiers often felt conditions in the South to be better than did Washington-based congressmen. Occasionally, however, Sefton's conservative bias limits his understanding. A basic premise of his book is that "many people in the North looked upon the presence of troops in the South as the means whereby that section would undergo tremendous political, social, and psychological transformations." (p. 253). The author maintains that the army was too wise to accept this view. They were wise enough to see that legislation and occupation would not change the South. This opinion has a current echo: "You can't legislate morality." Both opinions betray a misunderstanding of reconstructions, past and present. This reviewer knows of no person of influence in the North who seriously believed that the transformation of southern hearts was possible or that a psychological metamorphosis was likely. In proposing and supporting Reconstruction legislation they did not seek to change hearts. They sought to protect freedmen from the well-understood, and all too frequently demonstrated, fact that hearts had not changed and could not be expected to change over night or even over years.

Sefton's conservatism betrays him once again when he discusses the actions of General John Pope in Georgia. He accuses the general of a "reprehensible arrangement of [electoral] district . . . inflicted upon Georgia." Under this arrangement, Negroes, with 1,800 less registered voters than whites, gained control of the state's constitutional convention. They gained 104 out of 169 seats. What did Pope do to earn Sefton's censure? He did nothing. He arranged nothing. We left intact the electoral districts established by white Southerners before Appomattox! According to Sefton, Pope told his opponents, "You do it better if you can." Also according to Sefton, former Governor Brown exonerated the general of charges that he had gerrymandered the state to favor Negroes. Of course, it is possible to suspect Brown's approval, though Sefton is apparently not aware of the governor's imaginative political wanderings. But, when Pope did offer his adversaries a chance to do the job better and then actually did nothing himself with existing southern-drawn lines, it is difficult to see why Sefton continues to pillory Pope for a "reprehensible arrangement."

It is even more difficult to understand or to excuse the author's attitude toward those with whom he disagrees. On at least two occasions he practically accuses Professors Thomas and Hyman of willful deception. When Sefton cannot find material cited by these authors the material becomes an "alleged letter." He archly mentions that the Library of Congress staff could not find another letter cited in the Stanton volume. The judgment of Thomas and Wyman that the army became a legislative agency during Reconstruction Sefton does modify. But he cannot restrain himself from saying that their judgment "has no real meaning," although his own evidence describes the shifting of control over the army from executive to legislative hands. Sefton does indeed offer many useful correctives to the views presented in *Stanton*. Unfortunately, he feels it necessary to include as he does so not scholarly disagreement, but personal innuendo.

This is still a useful book. It is marred occasionally by the author's bias, and it is occasionally weakened by personal attacks. However, the material Sefton presents can be had nowhere else, and for the most part the arguments he presents do

stand up. He demonstrates clearly how successfully and moderately the army handled the problem described by President Grant in 1875, "The task assumed by the troops is not a pleasant one to them . . . the army is not composed of lawyers capable of judging at a moment's notice just how far they can go in the maintenance of law and order . . . it was impossible to give specific instructions providing for all possible contingencies that might arise." Sailing in such uncharted waters the U.S. Army steered a steady course. Given an unwelcome task the soldier performed it remarkably well. Sefton's book gives them a deserved memorial by explaining their role and the admirable way in which they performed it.

PHILLIP S. PALUDAN

*University of Illinois*

*Ballots and Fence Rails: Reconstruction on the Lower Cape Fear.* By W. McKee Evans. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1966. x, 314 pp. Preface, maps, bibliography, index, appendixes. \$7.50.)

This book, which won a 1966 award from the Association of State and Local History, is concerned with the eight lower counties of North Carolina's Cape Fear River. Chronologically, the story begins with the closing year of the Civil War and continues in some detail until about 1877, with some reference to the events of the 1880s and 1890s. By early 1865 Wilmington had become the Confederacy's most important port, and the fact that during the period of this study it was North Carolina's only "city" (population was less than 20,000), made it important in state affairs.

The history of the Lower Cape Fear region is unique. In 1860 it was the center of secession sentiment in North Carolina, but after the war it developed the most potent Republican organization in the state, one that continued to win victories in Pender and New Hanover counties until 1898. Unlike the Klan-ridden Piedmont, the Cape Fear counties had effective and stable government during the Reconstruction years, and the Klan itself had little strength in this area. *Ballots and Fence Rails*

is an analysis of this phenomenon. Biographical sketches of George French, William P. Canady, Abraham Galoway, and other Republican leaders are particularly good. The price, economic and social, that they eventually paid for their political activity was great. The final defeat of the Cape Fear Republicans came from outside forces, notably the capture of the state legislature by the Democrats in 1870, and the betrayal of Southern Republicans in the Compromise of 1877. Economically, the post-war years brought the demise of the rice and naval stores industries, which had long been the mainstays of the region. Stagnation followed for a time, but the development of new creosote lumber processes and the improvement of railways and of Wilmington's harbor facilities brought economic salvation.

The book is well written and is even humorous at times. The author's approach to Reconstruction is revisionist, although he has written with restraint. Nevertheless, his sympathies are with the plebian Republicans, and he enjoys exposing the foibles and inconsistencies of the aristocratic Conservatives. The Republicans, on the whole, are not subjected to his subtle ironies. Altogether, this is a superior work, one that well merits its award.

DANIEL W. HOLLIS

*University of South Carolina*

*And Promises to Keep: The Southern Conference for Human Welfare, 1938-1948.* By Thomas A. Krueger. (Nashville: Vanderbilt University Press, 1967. xi, 218 pp. Preface, bibliographic essay, index. \$6.50.)

For those of us who have had experience with the calmly persistent desegregation efforts of the Southern Conference Educational Fund, it is gratifying to read an account of the establishment of its parent organization, the Southern Conference for Human Welfare. The terrific struggles to achieve Negro rights and labor recognition in the fiercely segregationist and anti-union Deep South were a considerable part of the organization's origins. Its formation in 1938 was finally made



broad enough - at Eleanor Roosevelt's suggestion - to include all of the South's major social and political problems. Additionally, such goals as the abolition of the poll tax would help to liberalize the Democratic party in the South, which was giving ever more disturbingly backward and balky signs after the Supreme Court fiasco of 1937.

Organized as the Southern Conference for Human Welfare - a good indication of its very general purposes - its roster sounded like a Who's Who in southern liberalism. It included at one time or another such names as Claude Pepper and Mary McLeod Bethune of Florida, and Ellis Arnall, Lillian Smith, Lister Hill, and many others. Unfortunately for SCHW, the organization also had occasional aid and praise from Paul Robeson, Earl Browder, and several other Communists, and this lent a facade of substance to the fallacious attempts to present the Conference as a Communist front. But as Professor Krueger writes, "No amount of Congressional pettifoggery can turn peaceful propaganda in support of New Deal reform and Negro voter registration into subversive activities."

The internal history of any organization is seldom the better part of any narrative, and the labored evolution of SCHW is no exception despite the author's lively prose and helpful analysis. More important, the author has set forth the relationship of the organization to the New Deal, the Wallace campaign of 1948, and the witch-hunting tactics of the House Un-American Activities Committee. Efforts of the SCHW were not very successful, Professor Krueger finds. Its attempt to help liberalize the Democratic party by abolishing the poll tax was a failure; its pro-labor work had no tangible results; and its cries for reform were largely un-heeded by both state and national politicians. Its most enduring successes were in the field of desegregation. Here the organization's interracial membership pioneered in assaults on the Jim Crow system and Negro voter registration.

The Southern Conference scatter-gun approach to the many regional problems of the South was one of the factors in its demise. Its wide variety of participants, failing to find a common formula, drifted into other organizations to pursue their various aims. Persistent attack as a "red" group, chronic financial ills, and the unseemly internal scramble for power also

helped to bring the SCHW down by 1948. But any group which labored at such a worthy goal long before the national tide turned deserves to have its seminal origins explored, and this is a capable effort to do so.

RALPH F. DE BEDTS

*Old Dominion College*

*Hurricanes: Weather at its Worst.* By Thomas Helm. (New York: Dodd, Mead & Company, 1967. xiv, 234 pp. Acknowledgements, preface, illustrations, appendix, glossary, index. \$6.00.)

As its title indicates, this is a book about hurricanes over the years rather than (if you will forgive me) a blow-by-blow account of any one particular storm. It deals principally with North Atlantic hurricanes, and since these have had an unfortunate habit of concentrating on Florida, a good portion of this book deals with Florida storms. Almost every important storm since 1921 is mentioned, the major ones in some detail.

This is a very handy book to have around on a September evening when you are listening to weather reports and arguing with your wife over whether it was 1958 or 1959 that Hurricane Whatever-its-name-was came across the Florida Keys (or was it Palm Beach?) and turned north, or maybe south. In most cases you can check on it here. And although I found the writing oddly uneven, some sections are not only informative but intensely exciting.

Probably the best way to summarize the book is by a quick look at the individual chapters. "Early Hurricanes" touches on the storms that troubled Columbus and other early explorers, along with a brief mention of some of the early scientific study of hurricanes. Unsurprisingly, Benjamin Franklin got in on this act. (If some day I read where it was actually Franklin who invented the A bomb and launched the first Sputnik, it won't surprise me.) "Anatomy of Hurricanes" contains a good explanation of how and where hurricanes are formed, the power they generate, rain totals, barometric readings, etc. In the chapter "Galveston," Mr. Helm gives his most detailed description of a single storm.

And a very good, exciting, and fearful description it is. If everybody who lives along the Florida coasts read this chapter every August, there would be few hurricane-spawned casualties. In Galveston a lone weatherman raced his horse along the beach warning vacationers to seek high ground. Only a few heeded him, and not even all of those who did, including the weatherman's own wife, survived the storm.

"Hurricane Hunters" is the story of the first deliberate airplane flight into a hurricane, with a brief mention of today's navy and air force weather planes. "Since Galveston" is a run-down on practically all the important storms from 1921 through 1965. Major storms such as those of 1926 and 1928 that battered Miami and Lake Okeechobee, the 1935 storm that destroyed much of Henry Flagler's railroad through the Florida Keys, Hurricane Audrey of 1957, Donna of 1960, "the year of Betsy" in 1965, and some others are given in considerable detail. This chapter makes up approximately one third of the book. "Protection and Survival" is a short, competent account of how to get ready for a hurricane. The chapters on "Tornadoes" and "Typhoons" are excellent. In "Typhoons" Mr. Helm gives a really superb account of the great storm that battered Admiral Halsey's Third Fleet in 1944. "Storms of 1966" is largely a personal account of getting ready for Hurricane Alma. At the last moment Alma swerved and bypassed Dunedin where Mr. Helm lives, but it gave him ample opportunity to study the reactions of people as they secured their homes and moved into crowded community shelters, carrying weeping babies, barking dogs, and all. (If your reviewer had had anything to do with it, the storm would have gone on and hit Dunedin, giving Mr. Helm a still more exciting chapter: when Alma changed course she hit Anna Maria and blew the roof off my home.)

Since it is against the rules of the Critics Union not to find some fault with a book, I will point out that Mr. Helm has an odd habit of dropping in tidbits of unrelated and sometimes uninteresting information. There is a good bit about how Columbus was blamed for a lack of gold in the New World, along with paragraphs on other explorers who, apparently, never encountered a hurricane. Mr. Helm informs us that Crystal Beach was settled by people who motored down from Canada in Essexes, Hudsons,

and Auburns; then, seemingly surprised at how this information got in a book about hurricanes, he promptly drops the matter. There is the rather surprising information that pre-Columbian Indians fished for tarpon, though what tackle they used, or what they did with the tarpon when caught, or what this has to do with big storms, he does not say. I mention this chiefly to stay within the rules of the union. Where Mr. Helm has kept to his subject, as he has most of the time, he has written a very informative and interesting book.

WYATT BLASSINGAME

*Anna Maria, Florida*

*Those Amazing Ringlings and Their Circus.* By Gene Plowden. (Caldwell, Idaho: Caxton Printers, 1967. xiv, 303 pp. Introduction, illustrations, bibliography. \$6.50.)

A most extraordinary amount of research went into this book, which is a definitive history to end all definitive histories of the fabulous Ringling brothers and their contribution to the American circus. Mr. Plowden must have consulted every available route book and piece of advertising paper, the authoritative and more general source books, and innumerable newspaper files and copies of *White Tops* (circus fans' magazine). Of greater importance for the color he gives to his book is the fact that he has known all sorts of circus performers and officials and many old-time residents of Sarasota where the circus made its headquarters from 1927 to 1959. He acquired all sorts of information from that longtime, ingenious Ringling press agent and delightful raconteur, the late Roland Butler, who contributed an introduction to this book. In addition, Mr. Plowden knew and talked often with John Ringling - last surviving and most magnificent of the brothers. The author is thus able to dramatize incidents, invent dialogue, throw light on obscure events, and add liveliness to what otherwise might have been a too-dry recital of facts.

The Ringling Circus began in Baraboo, Wisconsin, in 1882, when the brothers took out a little show they called the Classic and Comic Concert Company. This book traces its growth, step by step, to a size that required 100 cars, through changes in

format, including the acquisition of other companies, and to the merger with Barnum & Bailey in 1907. Those insatiable addicts, the circus fans, will revel in the wealth of minutiae. There appear to be astonishingly few errors of fact in this book. The most glaring one is the statement that the Asolo Theater was part of the museum when it was built at the end of the 1920s. The Asolo Theater did not come from Venice until 1951, and became a part of the Sarasota museum in 1952. The volume's worst omission is an index - which is badly needed.

Much light is thrown on the personalities and careers of the brothers, with special emphasis on Johns place in the hierarchy, his personal rise to great wealth, and his later financial vicissitudes. After his death in 1936, we follow the taking over by other members of the family, the ensuing feuds, the Hartford fire and its aftermath, the transformation of the entertainment into more and more of a "girlie show," and the retirement of the big top in 1956. The book takes us up to 1966, and it seems ironic and a little sad that the conclusion could not have been written after the most drastic change of all, in November 1967, when John North sold his uncles' circus to outsiders. Any skulduggery at any time is virtually ignored by the author.

The person interested especially in John Ringling, "the circus king," will find here a rounded portrait of a complex personality - entrepreneur, businessman in many fields, friend, foe, lover of art, builder of a museum and a palatial residence, "a man of Herculean achievements and magnificent extravagances." Though Mr. Plowden obviously believes that John Ringling was basically honest, he does not hesitate to tell of his inordinate love of money, his fantastic egotism, his ingenious and sometimes ruthless opportunism. He was given to dark moods and quick angers, "unpredictable, crafty and cunning. . . a conniver and a charmer . . . resourceful promoter and one of Dame Fortune's favorite sons . . . who knew all the curves and corners on life's twisting highway."

To those who love Florida for its own sake, the Ringlings - and especially John - emerge as men who were largely responsible for one aspect of its development. John's name may be spoken even in the same breath as that of Henry W. Flagler of

Florida hotel and railroad fame. John Ringling gave to Florida a uniquely beautiful museum, filled to overflowing with priceless works of art (though of a value at the time of his death much less than that attributed by appraisers). His Venetian-Gothic mansion nearby became a museum in 1946. He made Florida's Gulf coast the circus center of the United States. As a result of his enthusiasm, knowledge, and generosity, millions of visitors have come to the state and keep on coming to see for themselves.

MARIAN MURRAY

*Sarasota, Florida*

*James Branch Cabell: The Dream and the Reality.* By Desmond Tarrant. (Norman, Oklahoma: University of Oklahoma Press, 1967. xii, 292 pp. Introduction, bibliography, index. \$5.95.)

The three books by James Branch Cabell about Florida are treated like stepchildren in this study of the novelist's writings. *The St. Johns, A Parade of Diversities*, though deemed a witty "satirical pageant of human faults and foibles," is downgraded for its shallowness and especially for its ungenerous portrait of John James Audubon. The novels, *There Were Two Pirates* and *The Devil's Own Dear Son*, are called clever and skilled in structure but too contrived to merit analysis.

A similar disappointment in the methodology of this book arises from its failure to come to grips with the ideas or the art of Cabell. The opening suggests that Cabell's myth-making power, his creation of an imagined world in which the events take on allegorical meaning related to the author's own day, will be the central substance. Instead of explications of Cabell's major concepts, the chapters are compilations of footnote-like statements that glitter with quotations from Cabell and many other authors, with comments upon occasional fictional personages or incidents, with comparisons with Shakespeare, and with oddments of source assignment and criticism. Although Cabell's art and thought were less at variance with those of his generation than is usually asserted, his mannered style, pseudo-historical substance, and literary allusiveness made his novels laborious reading by comparison with Sinclair Lewis's cartoon-like satiric thrusts

at American posturing. If Cabell is to be understood adequately, he needs to be put into better perspective than this book affords.

HARRY R. WARFEL

*University of Florida*

*I Love A Roosevelt.* By Patricia Peabody Roosevelt. (Garden City: Doubleday & Company, 1967. x, 387 pp. Foreword, epilogue, illustrations. \$6.95.)

It is always interesting to know what motivations are at work in the writing of a book. In the foreword the fifth wife of Elliott Roosevelt tells why she wrote this one: "I had an insatiable urge to tell many people of *my* Roosevelt and our wondrous love." On the handsome red, white, and blue dust jacket Drew Pearson places his stamp of approval, calling it "a beautiful love story."

The love story begins in 1960 in Phoenix, Arizona, where Elliott is ensconced with Minnewa, wife number four, and Patricia Peabody Whitehead, divorcee and mother of four, is exhibiting her remarkable adaptability in the role of aggressive real estate woman. It carries the pair through hair-raising business ventures in Denver, Sheldon, Iowa, and Minneapolis, and ends in Florida with Elliott serving as mayor of Miami bid for reelection. The book is, of course, a bit more than the love story of two middle-aged people since it concerns members of an illustrious American family. Not only are the five children of the late President of the United States, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, under discussion, but so is his esteemed wife, the late Eleanor Roosevelt, as well.

While the book does serve as a gossip look behind the scenes at Roosevelt gatherings, one cannot agree with the publishers who describe it as "the inside story of the Roosevelt children." Rather it is an outside-looking-in version by a viewer who shows surprise at such normal family items as Eleanor Roosevelt's china not matching or the fact that the Christmas wrapping paper encircling the presents sent by her must have been used over and over before as there were creases showing the size of

another package and another gift." There are some telling pictures of Eleanor just the same: her well bred shock at learning her son has legally adopted the four Whitehead children and has changed their name to Roosevelt, the letter she wrote to Elliott of first learning of his fifth marriage in which she suggests the only way she can help is by dying and leaving an estate, the income tax refund check for \$3,000 she sent her son when he and Patty lost their premature baby, the serving of dubonnet instead of hard liquor at family parties, and the "boys" managing to have a bottle of whiskey tucked away in the book-case or below stairs.

At the Hyde Park funeral of this great lady we find the author "peeking out through my black veil" and "looking carefully around at the mournful ritual." History has already recorded this somber occasion. Patty Roosevelt adds a footnote: Eleanor Roosevelt's children kept no all night vigil by her remains and removed the rosary beads that Elliott had placed in the coffin. The author brushed shoulders with the leaders of the world at her mother-in-law's funeral. (As a matter of fact, she records that two Presidents, Kennedy and Truman, addressed her as "Sis" on two separate occasions.)

Little of any historical consequence is revealed in this book but a good deal about the author, and clearly there are other themes at work here besides love. There is, one feels, an inevitability about its having been written. As a rebellious child whose bid for attention was the ability to ride a horse, Patricia Peabody kept a diary. Later, as the mother of four small children, she edited the social register. The Peabodys of Seattle, mind you, are no johnny-come-latelys. We are told that "dating back to pioneer days we were in the Blue Book every year." Furthermore, it is pointed out, a cousin was a recent governor-Endicott Peabody of Massachusetts.

It should be noted that *I Love A Roosevelt* had the considerable assistance of Charles Whited (cq) of the *Miami Herald* who was approached by the author for the task. His name does not appear on the cover but is mentioned in the foreword as "my writer, my teacher and my friend."

This is an extraordinary book, both naive and vulgar-and filled with contradictions. When last heard from, it had sold



30,000 copies and had been newspaper serialized. And Patty Roosevelt proved such a draw on television in Chicago, where she went to help sell the book, that she was held over for two weeks on the Jim Conway show.

HELEN MUIR

*Miami, Florida*