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BOOK REVIEWS

The Minutes, Journals, and Acts of the General Assembly of British West Florida. Compiled and edited by Robert R. Rea and Milo B. Howard, Jr. (University: University of Alabama Press, 1979. xxv, 406 pp. Preface, general introduction, bibliographical note, roster of members of the council sitting as the upper house, roster of members returned to the Commons House of Assembly, notes, epilogue, index of legislative proceedings, general index. $45.00.)

More than most of the states, Florida has benefited from scholarly publications spawned by the Bicentennial. A good example is this book, published under the Alabama Bicentennial Commission's auspices. The University of West Florida, which is located in Pensacola, the former capital of British West Florida, also appropriately collaborated.

British West Florida existed for only two decades. Having defeated France and Spain in the Seven Years War, Britain took part of the conquered territory from each enemy in 1763 to form a new colony. Its eastern limit was the Appalachicola River and the western boundary, stretching to the Mississippi, included French Mobile and, after 1764, French Natchez.

As soon as practical, civilian government replaced rule by the British army. The first governor, George Johnstone, arrived in 1764. The appointed upper house soon began to function, and in 1766 elections were held for the lower house. As a consequence the first general assembly finally met, and the seventh and last one concluded deliberations in 1778, just before Spanish troops launched their successful campaign to conquer the province.

There is little melodrama in these minutes. The laws tend to be dry and repetitive, and the politicians' character, factional disputes, and substantive differences remain obscure. Many of the debates and laws concern creating parishes, vestries, and other elements and areas of government, granting land, and supervising Indian affairs. Such mundane items as regulating markets and keeping filth from Pensacola's and Mobile's streets and the waters immediately joining these towns were also matters

for concern. A close look at the documents reveals such details as the new provincial capital of Pensacola requiring not one but two jails, and the French colonists throughout the population-starved province being courted and treated far more leniently than their Catholic counterparts in Britain. Reading the delegates' surnames makes it obvious why the Scotch party was so powerful. Laboring on plantations and serving on ships calling at Pensacola and Mobile, Negro slaves were conspicuous in the province, and several of the acts formed the basis of a provincial slave code. Disputes between the lower house and the governor over appointing a treasurer and other provincial officers disclose that West Florida's assembly, like those in other American colonies, was flexing its muscles. Even so there was little question that the royal prerogative counted for more in West Florida than in the older, more northern colonies.

Despite his publicized pugnaciousness, Governor Johnstone, according to the editors of this volume, got along with the assembly as well as any provincial governor. The editors' rosters of members of the general. assembly, indicating when they served and whom they represented, and especially Rea and Howard's inciteful comments, descriptions of the governors, interpretation of political conditions, and introductions to the various general assemblies are perceptive. They claim too much, however, in contending that "no other colony succeeded in passing such an act . . ." to regulate the Indian trade (xvii); and in their enthusiasm for the Bicentennial they perhaps have overstressed similarities of West Florida assemblymen with Patrick Henry and Sam Adams and have muted real differences. These minor considerations aside, scholars are indebted to Rea and Howard, and will find this work a convenient and indispensable source to help interpret and bring to life the history of this British colony.

Florida State University J. LEITCH WRIGHT, JR.

Cardinales de Dos Independencias (Noreste de México-Sureste de los Estados Unidos). A symposium held at the Universidad Iberoamericana with the collaboration of the Univesrity of Florida, 29 and 30 November 1976, in commemoration of the Bicentennial of the Independence of the United States. (Mexico, Fomento Cultural Banamex, A. C., 1978, 281 pp. Presentation, notes.)

Five papers written in the Spanish language comprise the first section of the volume. In the second section there are four papers in English. A *Relatoría* gives the chronological order in which the papers were presented.

Dr. Ernesto Lemoine of the Universidad Autónoma de México painted a dramatic picture of *New Orleans: Center of Propaganda and Activities of the Mexican Insurgency*. In 1810 leaders of the Mexican uprising believed that their cause would triumph only if they could count on assistance from the United States, "the paradigm of liberty and democracy in the New World." Their diplomacy was centered in New Orleans, where it was hampered by adventurers and double agents.

Maestro Roberto Moreno, also of the UNAM, spoke about *Spanish Attitudes toward the American Revolution*. Spain preferred to aid the North American colonists indirectly, instead of choosing the more expedient course of open participation and recognition of the new nation which might have guaranteed her territorial boundaries.

Lic. César Sepúlveda of the Instituto Mexicano "Matías Romero" discussed *Independent Mexico and the Onis Treaty of 1819.* He said that the Onís-Adams Treaty, which resulted in the transfer of Florida to the United States, had its origin in "that passion for expansion with which the United States was born, a passion based on strange ideas of natural rights, geographical predestination, and manifest destiny."

The Spanish historian Dr. Francisco de Solano of the Universidad Complutense de Madrid described *Spanish Strategy and Warfare in the Sea of the Antilles.* After Spain declared war against Britain in 1779 the conflict acquired a distinctly naval character. The notable performance of the Spanish naval forces demonstrated the efficacy of the Bourbon reforms.

Dra. María del Carmen Velásquez of the Colegio de Mexico

told of *Don Matías de la Mota Padilla and the Provincias Internas.* In the eighteenth century economic power in New Spain was concentrated in Mexico, the capital, while the interior provinces lacked the funds necessary to protect their northern borders. Mota Padilla proposed reforms which, had they been instituted, might have preserved the Provincias Internas for a while.

The English language section of the book, headed *Northeastern Mexico-Southeastern United States, Key Zone in the Independence* of *Both* Countries, begins with *a* comprehensive study by Dr. Michael V. Gannon of the University of Florida of *Church Influence in Louisiana and Florida during the Eighteenth Century.* "Over a space of two and a half centuries, and across a distance of 3,000 miles from St. Augustine to San Francisco (including French Louisiana) the Roman Catholic religion was firmly implanted early in United States history."

To tell the story of the great *Bernardo de Gálvez: Spain's Man of the Hour during the American Revolution,* Dr. Jack D. L. Holmes of the University of Alabama in Birmingham skillfully used the device of quoting a royal cédula of King Charles III of Spain. In that cédula of November 12, 1781, the monarch reviewed the distinguished career of Gálvez, conferred on him the title of Conde de Gálvez, and named him governor and captain-general of the Province of West Florida.

In his very informative lecture, *A Distant Thunder: Anglo-Spanish Conflict in the Eighteenth Century,* Dr. Robert R. Rea of Auburn University of Alabama reminded his listeners that the Declaration of Independence of the United States was but "one important step in a long process," and that the clash of European dynasties in the eighteenth century "reshaped the continents, exhausted the European competitors, and contributed to the freedom of all the American states."

The final paper in this volume was the one heard first in the symposium. Dr. John J. TePaske had been asked "to provide a backdrop" for the other papers. He did that brilliantly in *Old Spain, Mexico, and the Creation of Empire,* by commenting on certain factors which caused the Spanish colonial experience to differ greatly from that of British colonists in North America. A primary factor was the medieval character of the Spanish conquest and colonization. The timing of the discovery of America, just nine months after the Moors surrendered Granada to the Catholic

kings, perpetuated in the New World the military virtues esteemed in the seven-hundred year Reconquest, as well as a host of medieval institutions, attitudes, and practices. Other important factors were the large populations of indigenous peoples and the abundance of natural resources found in Spanish America.

The Bicentennial conference at which these scholarly papers were read was held in Mexico City under the sponsorship of the American Embassy. Dr. Samuel Proctor and Dr. Terry McCoy of the University of Florida coordinated the American papers and the arrangements for the meeting.

Orange Park, Florida AILEEN MOORE TOPPING

Nature Guide to Florida. By Richard Rabkin and Jacob Rabkin. (Miami: Banyan Books, 1978. 80 pp. Introduction, illustrations, index. $7.95.)

The short introduction to this paperback notes that it "is not a scientific treatise or an identification manual. . . . The primary purpose of the book is to turn some of the attention of residents and visitors of all ages to the ecological wonders that can be observed with relative ease and enjoyed with minimum effort in this subtropical climate. . . . The book will serve its purpose if, from time to time, it stimulates you to notice and appreciate the miraculous ways of life in the fields and prairies, forests and swamps, seashores and beaches, marshes and mudflats, streets and gardens of south Florida." The book is divided into twenty-nine chapters, each touching on a different facet of the subject, including geography and geology, turtle grass jungle, coral reefs, wading birds, alligator holes, bromeliads, epiphytes, exotics, roadsides, state parks, and wildlife refuges.

The authors unfortunately provide no lyrical descriptions like such nature writers as Rachel Carson, N. J. Berrill, Aldo Leopold; nor do they feel the intense personal empathy of, say Jack Rudloe, in dealing with their subject.

There are twenty-nine pages of water color illustrations. These are more impressionistic than photographic, yet some-most of the birds and a few plants-catch their subjects so well they might serve better than photographs for quick-glimpsed identification.

Others seem to have been painted from descriptions given in a poorly understood language. The Australian pine, for instance, might be mistaken for a board stabbed with feathered darts, or maybe .a dune sparsely grown with seaoats. Even so, it fits beautifully onto its page, and every page of illustration makes an attractive whole.

Because of its brevity and the wide variety of its subjects, the book must skim lightly over most of them. Still, in parts it gives fascinating information that is probably unknown to most amateur nature watchers. Take a few lines from the section Bromeliad Kingdom: "The bromeliads are most ingenious in their adaptation. They have developed a special structural form for collection and storing water. Their pointed leaves are furled at the base, but then spread open to form a vaselike container for funneling rainfall and dew. This minature resevoir becomes the center of an active environment. Mosquitos and other aquatic insects live and breed in the water small tree frogs find shelter and moisture in the rosetts of leaves, snakes search out frogs and lizards, and birds drink from these readily accessible and almost perpetual water sources and forage for insects among the leaves."

This sort of information can truly help "to notice and appreciate the miraculous ways of life" in the south Florida outdoors.

Anna Maria, Florida WYATT BLASINGAME

A Season of Youth: The American Revolution and the Historical Imagination. By Michael Kammen. (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1978. xxi, 384 pp. Preface, illustrations, notes, index. $15.00.)

In many respects Professor Kammen's latest work is a sequel to his *People of Paradox* for which he received a Pulitzer prize in 1973. As opposed to the Civil War or any other conflict, the Revolution, according to the author, has held the greatest interest over the years for Americans. Although blacks, white Southerners of Confederate ancestry, and certain others perhaps will not agree, by and large the author's basic assumption may be valid. Influenced by the many Revolutionary publications, exhibitions,

and projects spawned by the Bicentennial, this work tells relatively little about the Revolution itself. Instead the author is concerned with how for two centuries Americans have viewed the conflict with Britain.

As one might expect in an intellectual and cultural study of this nature, Kammen has relied heavily on literary sources, including works by James Fenimore Cooper, William Gilmore Simms, Ralph Waldo Emerson, Esther Forbes, Kenneth Roberts, and the prolific historical novelist of the 1970s, John Jakes. Beyond such standard fare Kammen has utilized paintings ranging from those of Washington's contemporary, John Trumbull, to those of Peter Saul, who in 1975 painted a somewhat irreverent version of Washington crossing the Delaware. Films and Paul Green's successful dramas were also consulted as, to a limited extent, were engravings of Bernard Romans, the West Florida cartographer and military engineer. Romans was a Patriot in Tory-dominated West Florida who found it expedient to return to New England where he made one of the earliest engravings of the Battle of Bunker Hill.

The relative lack of interest in history and tradition in this country is due, as Kammen sees it, to several facts: the United States is a nation of immigrants; it has its own special notions of progress; and the vast majority of Americans believe that the earth belongs to the living, not to the dead hand of the past. Yet whenever the public does turn to the past the Revolution assumes a pivotal role, and Kammen contends that, for better or worse, the general public is far more likely to form its impressions from historical novels, plays, and films than from more standard though perhaps less melodramatic historical tomes. Americans have altered their views of the Revolution over the years. The Anglophobia of the eighteenth and nineteenth centuries tended to push Britain into the background and separation from the mother country was equated with prosperity and growth. In more recent times, Americans have shown a more sympathetic treatment of George III and his subjects. As passions of the Revolution have cooled, the conservative point of view-that the struggle of '76 was not very radical or revolutionary-has been in the ascendency.

According to Professor Kammen, in popular culture the Revolution has come to assume a national *rite de passage,* the ending of "a season of youth" by breaking away from the mother country

and in turn forming a new more mature and virtuous society. Among fictional characters, Esther Forbes's Johnny Tremain experienced an adolescent time of troubles, a parental separation, and a symbolic rebirth. Or in real life, after Andrew Jackson was orphaned during the Revolution, he took up arms against the enemy, was wounded and imprisoned, all of which helped prepare him for later dynamic leadership of the young republic. Somewhat prolix and loosely organized, this study, nevertheless, affords stimulating insights into what kind of people Americans have become since 1776.

Florida State University J. LEITCH WRIGHT, JR.

The Gentlemen Theologians: American Theology in Southern Culture, 1795-1860. By E. Brooks Holifield. (Durham: Duke University Press, 1978. ix, 262 pp. Preface, introduction, notes, manuscript collections cited, indexes, $11.95.)

This is a significant book, a breakthrough in our knowledge of thought in the Old South. Its importance in detail is largely limited to those with philosophical or theological skills; its general importance is becoming widely known, nevertheless, because of its effectiveness in overturning deficient notions about the intellectual life of that society. In the theological area, in particular, it moves beyond and much deeper than Clement Eaton's *The Mind of the Old South,* the standard study to date.

What Brooks Holifield does is demonstrate the formidable learning of 100 ministers from several denominations in the cities and towns of the Old South. His extensive and meticulous documentary research introduces us to the training of the ministers-some of it in Europe, much of it in northern institutions; the degree of their literary familiarity (they were knowledgeable about the seminal philosophical and theological works of modern Europe and colonial New England); and their self-conscious reference to various schools of epistemology, hermeneutics, and apologetics.

Hitherto we have been inclined to think that even the leading ministers of the Old South were quite limited in training, if not skill, and in conversancy with the most sophisticated conceptual

analyses in wider Christendom, with precious few exceptions. We now know that the number of exceptions was considerable and that the erudition of such clergymen was impressive. They were in touch with the wider world; they were accomplished enough to have graced pulpits, altars, and parishes in more cosmopolitan centers outside the South.

Yet their presence and influence are only a small part of the larger southern picture, as Holifield himself acknowledges. This cadre of padres made up a tiny fraction of clergymen serving the South. Moreover their ministries were conducted in the few larger towns and cities of the antebellum South, those strung along the coastal regions of the seaboard states, for the most part. These were the "gentlemen," the "genteel," the "bourbons," the "elites" among the ministers, and their congregations comprised the better classes. Thus, this study is hardly panoramic or representative, a fact recognized by the author as well as his reviewers. This study does have a signal accomplishment, even so: the intellectual historian's rescuing Old South religion from the mistaken assumption that it was devoid of substance.

A fundamental question raised here has to do with the validity of the presupposition that what ministers say is heard by their listeners. Just how telling were the informed sermons, learned teachings, and printed essays of these clergymen for the actual comprehension-to say nothing of the practice-of their parishioners? Perhaps the most positive evidence for the power of such knowledge in antebellum southern culture was the founding of numerous colleges by the churches during the period.

One does well to read Holifield on the "gentlemen theologians" in tandem with Donald Mathews's *Religion in the Old South.* The "populism" of the latter balances the "elitism" of the former. The isolation of thought from perception and practice, a danger in the former analysis, is corrected by Mathews's work. The interrelatedness of church and society, of thought and culture in the latter enriches Holifield's approach. Yet, there they were, these erudite people and sophisticated concepts and responsive congregations, a real part of urban and town life in the Old South.

By implication, Holifield underscores how different the antebellum South was to be from the cultural life of the region from the Civil War forward for many decades. The quality of learning

he introduces us to was hardly repeated until the deprovincialization of the South following the 1960s. It is to be hoped that he or someone else will trace the career of these learned traditions, or their counterparts, through the late decades of the nineteenth century and into this one. We learn again that the religious South as we know it is a product of neither the colonial nor the antebellum societies but of the (lengthy) aftermath of the Civil War and Reconstruction.

This study is excellent; it is a breakthrough in our own understanding of the "mind of the South." The fact that it is a book for scholars-in truth for certain kinds of scholars-only magnifies its value, and should stand as an encouragement to other kinds of scholars and the sophisticated public to work to comprehend it.

University of Florida SAMUEL S. HILL, JR.

The Southern Federalists, 1800-1816. By James H. Broussard. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1978. xiii, 438 pp. Preface, notes, tables, maps, bibliography, index. $24.95.)

"If it rains during my administration I'll take credit for it." The source of this political truism is unknown, but it might well have been a Republican in Jefferson's first administration. Professor Broussard points out that after its narrow defeat in the elections of 1800, the Federalist party fell a victim to peace, prosperity, and Louisiana. By the end of Jefferson's first administration the once-mighty Federalists had been put to rout.

This study of southern Federalists is a welcome addition to the literature of early nineteenth-century political history. Broussard traces the history of the party in the four southeastern states of Virginia, North Carolina, South Carolina, and Georgia from the defeat of John Adams in 1800 to the end of the War of 1812.

Already in the minority in 1800 the southern Federalists fell into total disarray by 1807. Aside from the brilliant successes of the Jeffersonians, Professor Broussard notes other factors that contributed to the party's decline. Federalist leaders showed a singular inability to organize their party. They maintained almost no communication with leaders of the northern and eastern states; even within their own states they made little effort to establish

state and county committees or to utilize caucuses and tickets. In short, southern Federalists displayed neither the industry nor the aptitude for the mechanics of party machinery at which their Republican rivals had become so adept. As a notable instance, in the campaign of 1808, although Charles Cotesworth Pinckney's nomination for the presidency was not known to North Carolina leaders until early September, it was decided to keep it a secret from the public until October!

From the nadir of 1807 southern Federalists revived somewhat. The increasing unpopularity of Republican foreign policy afforded them the opportunity to make some headway, although Professor Broussard points out that "it was the embargo and not Democracy, that lost popularity" (quoting Archibald Henderson, p. 109). Although Federalism made notable gains in the northern states during "Mr. Madison's war," southern Federalists were reluctant to incur the stigma of disloyalty by opposing the administration. The antics of the New Englanders at the Hartford Convention which mortally wounded the party seemed to confirm their judgment.

Broussard follows his chronological account of southern Federalists in national politics with an examination of their roles in state politics. Here he is properly cautious, noting that, except in North Carolina, the small number of Federalists makes statistical analyses suspect. Such leaders as William R. Davie in North Carolina and John Rutledge, Jr., in South Carolina might have attracted support as much by their personal prestige as by their party connections. He also examines the relationships of economic, social, and regional influence on party affiliations, and his findings tend to confound traditional conclusions to which we are accustomed. While Federalists were numerous among the planters of the South Carolina low country, their strength in Virginia was greatest in the western mountains, and in North Carolina there was no regional pattern at all. Although Federalist leaders tended to have an elitist outlook, favored Britain over France, and came from the ranks of the well-to-do, voting patterns "throughout the region cannot be explained by . . . an economic division between the wealthy planter and small farmer, sectional rivalry within the state, ethnic background, or religious belief" (p. 402).

Professor Broussard might have helped his readers by providing biographical sketches of the most prominent Southern Fed-

eralists. James Jackson, William R. Davie, Benjamin Huger, and James Breckinridge appear so frequently that one needs to know something of their previous careers and achievements. Also there are occasions when it is difficult to distinguish between Broussard's judgments and those of his Federalist protagonists. Speaking of the post-embargo crisis, he writes, "True, the British might occasionally impress American seamen or seize cargoes, but such injuries could well be borne. France was far more predatory; insurance premiums were twice as high on voyages to British ports as to French and Spanish ports, reflecting the danger of French interference" (p. 108). Are these Broussard's judgments or those of the Federalist editors whom he cites in his note? But these are relatively minor matters. Professor Broussard's findings, qualified though they may be, will necessitate serious reconsideration for those of us who are in the habit of making glib generalizations about southern Federalists.

University of Alabama JOHN PANCAKE

The Papers of John C. Calhoun: Volume XI, 1829-1832. Edited by Clyde N. Wilson. (Columbia: University of South Carolina Press, 1978. xxxiv, 728 pp. Preface, introduction, symbols, notes, bibliography, index. $27.50.)

This eleventh volume of Calhoun papers covers the years of John C. Calhoun's second vice presidential term, which were also the years of Andrew Jackson's first presidential term. It ends a few days after Calhoun's resignation, following South Carolina's 1832 nullification of the federal tariff laws. These were complex and dramatic years during which occurred the Peggy Eaton affair, the Calhoun-Jackson breach over the First Seminole War, the breakup of the first Jackson cabinet, the germination of a new political party system, and the refinement and elaboration of Calhoun's theories on nullification and the nature of the Union.

Two-thirds of the almost 500 documents herein have never been previously published, and another ten per cent have been printed only in the newspapers of the time. All known letters and documents written by Calhoun during the years covered are included excepting routine or official documents sent to him as

presiding officer of the Senate. Like earlier volumes in the series, this one bears testimony to the wealth of yet unexplored documents in the National Archives.

The editor has prepared useful previews to the documents of each year which provide a chronology of events and notes guiding the reader to the more interesting documents. Particularly valuable is the editor's twenty-two page general introduction. It provides biographical material about the more important correspondents and an essay on the political scene which is an extraordinarily rewarding and suggestive contribution. In it he provides a useful interpretive touchstone for these paradoxical years. Though he does not specifically admit to the modern elitist interpretation of politics, Professor Wilson views the politics of Jacksonian America as "a loose confederation of local patriarchies," in which "political success consisted of winning the allegiance and cooperation of a relatively large number of men of local standing-men who, through property, family, personal force, professional attainments, or other distinctions, both represented and dominated the opinions and allegiances of their immediate neighborhoods" (p. xiii).

What delights the mind are the editor's refreshing insights into the too-often superficially presented events of 1829-1832. He, for instance, sees a gentler, more loyalist Calhoun than textwriters have usually seen, and nullification is viewed as a tactical dispute between two groups of Southerners (the Jacksonians, the more aggressive of the lot), "one wishing to dominate the federal government by conventional politics and the other wanting to prepare for a possible future minority position" (p. xvii). Professor Wilson has obviously reflected carefully upon the papers he has edited and has brought to his commentary an even-handed objectivity that makes this one of the most valuable little essays on Calhoun which this reviewer has seen. One hopes he will develop his ideas at greater length when his editorial task is done.

Readers of this *Quarterly* who wish to use the volume as a reference for Florida history will find slim pickings. In the 686 pages of documents and letters there are only eleven indexed references to Florida; five to Joseph M. White, the territorial delegate to Congress; four to James Gadsden, a South Carolinian active in the territory; two to territorial Governor William P. DuVal; and one to political activist Richard K. Call. More num-

erous are references to the First Seminole War (1818-1819) which rates thirty-six index entries. These, however, relate largely to the dispute that raged in 1830-1831 between Jackson and Calhoun over Calhoun's desire in 1819 to punish Jackson for his invasion of Florida. These letters are more informative about events of 1830-1831 than about the Florida happenings of 1818-1819.

Unfortunate though it may be for Florida history buffs, events here simply did not loom large in the life of Calhoun between 1829 and 1832. This excellent volume, however, is invaluable for students of Jacksonian America.

University of Florida HERBERT J. DOHERTY, JR.

Revisiting Blassingame's The Slave Community: The Scholars Respond. Edited by Al-Tony Gilmore. (Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press, 1978. xvi, 206 pp. Introduction, notes, appendix, index, about the contributors. $15.95.)

This volume of essays regarding Blassingame's *The Slave Community: Plantation Life in the Antebellum South* (1972) grew out of the 1976 meeting of the Association for the Study of Afro-American Life and History which was held in Chicago. In addition to an introduction by the editor, the volume contains essays by Mary Frances Berry, George P. Rawick, Eugene D. Genovese, Earl E. Thorpe, Leslie Howard Owens, Ralph D. Carter, Stanley Engerman, John Henrik Clarke, James D. Anderson, and a response by John W. Blassingame. The appendix is a reprint of Blassingame's article "Using the Testimony of Ex-Slaves" from the *Journal of Southern History*, 41 (November 1975).

Al-Tony Gilmore, noting that the "puzzle of slavery is a difficult one," states that the purpose of these essays is to assess the place of *The Slave Community* in the "total picture" (xiv). Mary Berry, reviewing the reviews of *The Slave Community*, raises consideration of why Blassingame's important study "did not receive the wide discussion and emphasis in the public press" as was accorded other recent studies of slavery (p. 14). The following eight essays answer both questions. All of the essays attest to the value of *The Slave Community* in presenting a picture of slavery

from the slaves' perspectives; many accept its contribution as a response to Stanley Elkins's provocative study of the psychological impact of slavery; some complain that *The Slave Community* was muted, too narrowly focused, or that it did not go far enough.

The value of these essays is to be found in the thoughtful criticisms of Blassingame's study, for each contributor suggests new directions for the study of slavery. Four essayists express the need for a psychological framework: Genovese and Thorpe suggest Freudian concepts; Anderson recommends black personality theory; and Carter notes the need for a greater understanding of the "dynamic interaction" between whites and blacks. Owens and Rawick reflect their well-deserved reputations by wishing to see an expanded picture of life within the slave community. Clarke decries the absence of work on Africa and the slave trade, while Engerman continues to promote quantitative analysis. Blassingame answers his critics in the concluding essay, and points out the need to examine the abolitionists' literature, and to understand the "personality development of the planter" (p. 166).

The essays are somewhat uneven. Some reflect a thoughtful analysis of *The Slave Community;* some exhibit the strident tones of polemics; but all are intellectually provocative. If such a collection of essays is necessary to "assess" John W. Blassingame's *The Slave Community,* then this volume serves its purpose.

University of Mississippi HARRY P. OWENS

Social Origins of the New South: Alabama, 1860-1885. By Jonathan M. Wiener. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1978. xiii, 247 pp. Acknowledgments, maps, tables, notes, epilogue, appendix, index. $14.95.)

In a recent analysis of Barrington Moore's *Social Origins of Dictatorship and Democracy,* Jonathan Wiener wrote, "Moore's concept of the 'reactionary coalition' of a persistent traditional landed elite with a weak modernizing bourgeoisie is one of the richest aspects of his thesis; it deserves elaboration and refinement" *(History and Theory,* May 15, 1976, p. 175). In his own book Wiener undertakes such an elaboration and refinement by focusing on Alabama in the twenty-year period following the

Civil War. Despite the title, the work does not deal with the South as a whole nor with all aspects of Alabama during the time period specified. It is a broad, well-written, and stimulating interpretation of the dominant role played by the planter class during the immediate post-war years in one southern state. Wiener thereby hopes to demonstrate how the South deviated, via Barrington Moore's "Prussian road," to modern society rather than follow the rest of the nation down the "classic capitalist-bourgeois road."

He finds the key to this deviation in the planter class which successfully fought off or thwarted challenges from black workers, merchants, and industrialists. The work is divided into three parts, the first of which consists of two chapters dealing respectively with planter persistence and with the reorganization of plantation labor. Manuscript census returns on 236 planter families in five Black Belt counties reveal a persistence rate of approximately forty-five per cent in both decades of the 1850s and the 1860s. In reestablishing their control over the freedmen, the planters resorted to statutes such as the Black Codes, supported the Ku Klux Klan, and worked with the Freedmen's Bureau in developing the share-cropping system which proved to be the most feasible method of "extracting an economic surplus from the underlying population" (p. 85).

The two chapters in Part II recount and analyze the struggle between the planters and the merchants who were also anxious to reap profits from the "surplus" agrarian labor through the newly-enacted crop-lien laws. Again planter power and influence prevailed; the legislature enacted laws both during and after Reconstruction that made planters' liens superior to others or abolished crop liens in most of the Black Belt counties. The result was a decline in the number of merchants in the five Black Belt counties and an increase in five "hill counties" in northwestern Alabama, with many of the merchants becoming landowners. Wiener emphasizes, however, that, contrary to Woodward and others, there was no merger of planter and merchant classes; the planter elite had simply won out in the Black Belt and retained its power and distinctiveness. The third part treats in three chapters the relationship between planters and industrialists, especially the Birmingham entrepreneurs supported by ardent advocates of a "New South" ideology. The planters did not oppose industry and rail-

roads per se; they simply supported types that were complementary and subordinate to agriculture and opposed any tendency toward the rise of a powerful bourgeois class of industrialists. The concluding chapter broadens the discussion of the ideological conflict to the entire South and advances the interesting notion that the "New South" promoters embraced the Old South myth because they were "not strong enough to attack it" (p. 218).

This study adds considerably to the growing evidence that for at least two decades after 1865 the New South was more similar to than different from the Old. Wiener's principal contribution lies in his use of manuscript census returns to demonstrate the persistence of planters, their predominance over subservient black labor, and their defeat of competition from merchants in their own Black Belt domain. Less convincing is his contention that Alabama's slow industrial development and general economic stagnation can be attributed largely to predominant planter influence in state politics and government. The author himself admits that the planters made a number of concessions, such as the tax rate-debt settlement, and that neither planters nor industrialists exercised hegemony over Alabama affairs by 1890. A clearer understanding of the nature and "power structure" of Redeemer Alabama will have to await a more definitive study utilizing a broader range of manuscript and other primary materials. Wiener has based his generalizations largely on secondary accounts supplemented by census data, a few legislative documents, and random samplings of newspaper opinion. Rather exhaustive footnotes appear conveniently at the bottom of the page, but no bibliography is provided.

To this reviewer, the most disturbing aspect of the book is the author's apparent acceptance of a preconceived thesis followed by the selection of appropriate evidence to support its applicability to post-Civil War Alabama. It may be true that planters wielded a disproportionate amount of power, but certainly this was changing during the 1880s and the 1890s. A better understanding of Alabama's divergence from national norms should emerge from a more broadly conceived study of economic, sectional, and political rivalries rather than the role of one elite social class. Taken as a whole, Wiener's book significantly increases our understanding of the post-war planters' activities and

beliefs, but falls short of proving his hypothesis of planter predominance in the state as a whole.

University of Houston ALLEN J. GOING

Emancipation and Equal Rights: Politics and Constitutionalism in the Civil War Era. By Herman Belz. (New York: W. W. Norton & Company, 1978. xviii, 171 pp. Preface, introduction, notes, bibliographical review, index. $10.95; $3.95 paper.)

Speaking to the Southern Historical Association in Lexington, Kentucky, in November 1939, Howard K. Beale called for the examination of Reconstruction freed from the moral preconceptions of scholarly researchers. Historians have ignored Beale's advice at their own peril. Each new reevaluation of the postwar years has reflected the unique temper and spirit of the age in which it was written. Building on his earlier well-received volumes on Reconstruction, Herman Belz has provided us with an interpretation which fits the preconceptions of our own post-liberal age. While readers may criticize Belz for his reliance on secondary literature, what the author offers in this extended essay is not new sources, but a new interpretive framework. The target of this volume is those writers of "the new orthodoxy" who, fired by the awakened social conscience of the 1960s, sought to reinterpret postwar events in the light of the "deferred commitment" to blacks that emerged as a result of the fratricidal sectional conflict. Thus, in the past twenty years, dozens of studies have explored the condition of blacks in the immediate post-bellum South. If these studies shared one thing, it was the belief that the black man was expoited and abandoned by the military and the Republican-controlled national government. So emancipation meant freedom in name only, and Reconstruction stood as the "tragic era" of lost opportunity for social justice for blacks.

Belz has little patience with this argument. Central to his thesis is the understanding that the freedmen's status was never viewed by contemporary northern whites as the central problem of the age. Here Belz makes one of his best points. The fact that revisionist historians have been critical of the "herrenvolk" racial democratic principles of America does not change the reality of

their wide acceptance during the nineteenth century. Thus Northerners did not approach the problem of reunion with a mind free to experiment in the cause of racial justice. Here Belz dissects the "republican ideology" which accepted the reunion and nationalism as the basic and legitimate goals of the northern victory. On this point the author has cogently examined the northern preconceptions in the light of Eric Foner's examination of Republican prewar ideology and Phillip Paludan's explorations in midcentury constitutional suppositions. Thus, Belz would argue, Northerners never could approach Reconstruction as a period ripe for social experimentation. They were restricted by the limits of their ideology. Thus blacks could lay claim to little more than their freedom and a limited confirmation of their civil but not their social rights.

Given the limited possibilities then available, Belz would argue that even sharecropping and segregation were decided gains in an era of pervasive social prejudice. Even the Emanicipation Proclamation is dusted off, polished up, and presented in a new light. While certainly a practical expedient, the Proclamation did embody the antislavery principles and moral prerogatives of the Republican party. Lincoln thus reemerges as the "Great Emancipator" of old. For a quite different picture of a befuddled and confused Lincoln, Peyton McCrary's new study of Reconstruction Louisiana provides a useful foil. Having taken stock of the possibilities for black social justice available to the postbellum generation, Belz argues that much was accomplished. The laissez-faire individualistic framework of the era precluded such remedies as the land redistribution and forced social adjustment for which revisionist historians have clamored.

In Belz's view Reconstruction does not merit its "tragic era" tag. It was neither a tragedy for the recalcitrant rebels, as the Dunningites once claimed, or for freedmen, as recent revisionists have contended. Will this new view become the new orthodoxy? Perhaps. But it is hard to read this volume without feeling that the author has struck at the very fault lines of the current interpretation of the period.

Florida State Archives DANIEL J. KRASKA

The Enchanted Country: Northern Writers in the South, 1865-1910. By Anne E. Rowe. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1978. xxi, 155 pp. Abbreviations, introduction, notes, selected bibliography, index. $11.95.)

Anne E. Rowe, associate professor of English at Florida State University, has provided interesting reading for students of southern history on northern writers in the South from 1865 to 1910. For-make no mistake about it-the South surfaced early as the stuff of romance, as Ms. Rowe shows. Her treatment of Harriet Beecher Stowe underscores the point by a discussion of the romantic elements in *Uncle Tom's Cabin* as well as in *Palmetto Leaves.* If we remember Simon Legree, we also remember Augustine St. Clare, whom Mrs. Stowe compared in one instance to "Moore, Byron, Goethe."

After the Civil War southern "territory" (the quotes are Ms. Rowe's) was opened to northern literary men who succumbed in delight to the lures of Spanish moss, decaying feudalism, and a place which one of these pilgrims, Edward King, characterized as "slumbrous, voluptuous, round, and graceful. Here beauty peeps from every door-yard. Mere existence is pleasure." Especially was this true when compared to existence in northern factory towns.

Comprehensive coverage is given to Mrs. Stowe, John DeForest, Albion Tourgée, Constance Fenimore Woolson (a great-niece of James Fenimore Cooper), Lafcadio Hearn, Owen Wister, and the Henry James who wrote about Charleston, South Carolina. Albion Tourgée and John DeForest, through his novel *Miss Ravenel's Conversion from Secession to Loyalty,* were promoting political and social reform in the South. "The pro-slavery South meant oligarchy, and imitated the manners of the European nobility. The Democratic North means equality," observes Dr. Ravenel. Tourgée also had a social axe to grind, perhaps more legitimately than did DeForest, since he actually lived in the South although he hailed from Ashtabula County, Ohio. Tourgée gave the world, among other things, a dialect account by a black man of a Ku Klux Klan murder. Ms. Rowe very properly points out to us the black stereotypes of the northern writers. She also deals in interesting detail with the local color of Constance Fenimore Woolson, whose writing about St. Augustine Minorcans had and has particular relevance for Floridians. *East Angels* is

set in the St. Augustine Miss Woolson loved "better than any other place in America." The northern writers are agreed: why does the gorgeous South have to have such an unfortunate social philosophy? Therein, of course, is their paradox.

It is in her discussion of Lafcadio Hearn, that enchanting lover of feudalism's high charm, that Ms. Rowe excels. She profiles the Hearn who provided the ultimate rationale for Northerners' love of the South: "I suspect what we term the final moral susceptibilities signify merely a more complex and perfect evolution of purely physical sensitiveness. . . . When one's physical sensibilities are fully developed and properly balanced, I do not think wickedness to others possible." If it is the Hearn of his Louisiana novel *Chita* that Ms. Rowe explores, it is also, by implication, the Hearn of the West Indies and of post-Tokugawa, Japan. Both were declining feudal societies.

There is a chapter on Owen Wister, a northerner but a grandson of the English actress Fanny Kemble and her southern husband, and also a "coda" on the Henry James of *The American Scene,* and here Ms. Rowe points out, along with Lionel Trilling whom she quotes, that "by involving the feminist movement with the struggle between North and South, he [James] made clear that his story was dealing with a cultural crisis." This crisis, of course, continues.

The Enchanted Country is not the work of a romancer but of a practitioner of traditional English department academic criticism. But Ms. Rowe's sympathy with place and with human subjects lends her book a particular charm. Certainly it belongs in any collection with pretensions to coverage of American literature.

Tallahassee, Florida GLORIA JAHODA

New Deal Policy and Southern Rural Poverty. By Paul E. Mertz. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1978. xiii, 279 pp. Preface, notes, bibliographical notes, index. $14.95.)

The 1930s and 1940s brought wrenching change to the rural South. With the onset of the Great Depression chronic poverty deepened into near collapse of the agricultural system. The federal government's program of aid to distressed farmers unin-

tentionally drove masses of propertyless tenants, croppers, and laborers off the land. By the end of the 1930s the South's long-lived hoe-and-plow culture was giving way to the mechanization which would render superfluous most agricultural labor. During this era, in short, the labor-intensive plantation system, which had survived invasions of Yankees and bollweevils, finally succumbed.

Set against this backdrop, Paul Mertz's account of a federal war on southern rural poverty is in part the study of a struggle against inexorable change, but it is also a story of missed opportunities and halfway measures. Mertz shows how the Agricultural Adjustment Administration and some of the early federal relief programs reinforced cotton planters' efforts to maintain control of "their" tenants or, conversely, to rid themselves of the vestigal burdens of plantation paternalism. However, Mertz's study focuses on the other side of federal policy, a persistent, if secondary, effort to create a New Deal for the southern mudsills whom the AAA either ignored or hurt. In 1934 the Federal Emergency Relief Administration began settling displaced farmers on idle AAA land, with the federal government effectively functioning as furnishing merchant. This temporary program tended to help people who were *relatively* well off, but it also furthered the notion that the government should support rural rehabilitation of family farmers and foster land ownership among tenants.

The idea of rural rehabilitation found legislative and administrative expression in the Bankhead Farm Tenancy Bill, introduced in 1935, and the Resettlement Administration, established the same year under the leadership of Rexford Tugwell. The comprehensive rehabilitation plans of Tugwell and Will Alexander had to be scaled down when Congress failed to pass the Bankhead bill in 1935. The Bankhead-Jones Act, as finally adopted in 1937, was substantially weaker than the original bill. The Farm Security Administration, successor to the Resettlement Administration, did promote resettlement through loans and various cooperative ventures, but it could not stem the tide of rural outmigration.

New Deal Policy and Southern Rural Poverty is essentially a study of policy making, and a particular strength of the book is its account of the interplay between various individuals and

groups in that process. We see southern liberals led by Will Alexander, southern Socialists, especially spokesmen for the Southern Tenant Farmers' Union, New Deal bureaucrats of various ideological bents, and a similarly varied lot of southern congressmen. The figure of Franklin Roosevelt, though seldom glimpsed directly, looms just offstage. The ideological and bureaucratic jousting of these parties at interest demonstrates in microcosm the internal contradictions of the New Deal. Except for the radicals, almost all believed that the family farm was still a viable economic unit in the South, as well as a cherished ideal. The warnings of a few that small farms were anachronistic in the plantation districts of the Deep South proved prophetic.

Many details of Mertz's story are familiar to us through the published histories of New Deal agencies and of liberal and radical protest in the 1930s. Given the author's intention to produce a synthesis "on the subject of the New Deal's failure to cope with rural poverty" (p. xii), one is surprised by what is not discussed. There is no account of the Tennessee Valley Authority or the Rural Electrification Administration, which certainly represented ambitious federal efforts to alleviate rural poverty. Neither is there discussion of federal relief programs other than the FERA and CWA, even though large numbers of rural Southerners were employed in non-farm work by agencies such as the WPA and CCC. The study understandably focuses on problems of the cotton South and particularly on the Mississippi Delta, but Mertz or some other scholar needs to explore the impact of federal policies on other parts of the South, including the tobacco and turpentine/ lumber belts.

While this is not a comprehensive study of the New Deal and southern rural poverty it is certainly a well-written and carefully-presented synthesis of what we now know about the federal government's major response to rural poverty and the crisis of land tenure in the Cotton Kingdom during the Depression. The research of Professor Mertz confirms Gavin Wright's sad conclusion that "the problems of southern agricultural development were never really solved. . . . The only escape came with the massive departure of Southerners from agriculture."

Georgia Institute of Technology ROBERT C. MCMATH, JR.

The du Pont Family. By John D. Gates. (Garden City, New York: Doubleday & Company, 1979. ix, 358 pp. Genealogy, preface, illustrations, acknowledgments, appendix. $11.95.)

Americans have generally been interested in reading about rich people, and with the current interest in family history it is not surprising that we are now seeing histories of rich families such as the Rockefellers, Mellons, and now the du Ponts. John D. Gates is not a completely undetached observer, having been married to a du Pont, but the former Wilmington, Delaware, newspaperman does a reasonably good job in keeping the book from being either an attack upon or an apology of this very wealthy and influential family.

It is interesting to observe the history of the family which is not a "rags to riches" theme since the family had both established social status and wealth in France before they arrived in the United States in 1800. It is also interesting to note that although rich the family did not possess a great fortune until the period of the First World War when profits from gunpowder and explosives sales were put into the developing General Motors Corporation and chemical production. By the mid-1920s the Du Pont Corporation was one of the nation's largest and the du Pont family one of the wealthiest.

Many members of the family are not particularly interesting, but this is not the case with Alfred I. du Pont, the family "rebel," who played such an influential role in twentieth-century Florida history. Much of the chapter on Alfred is based upon Marquis James's biography, *Alfred I. du Pont, the Family Rebel*, but Gates does bring the account up-to-date. The story is retold of Alfred's efforts in 1902 to keep the company in family hands, an act which did much to strengthen family unity as well. The questionable nature of Alicia Bradford Maddox's divorce and her marriage to Alfred in 1907, however, ruffled many feathers among the flock. In 1910 Alfred built a nine-foot wall around his 300-acre estate outside of Wilmington. The wall had broken glass embedded on its top which, according to family legend, was designed to keep out du Ponts as well as intruders. A more serious split occurred in 1915 when Alfred filed a lawsuit against his cousin Pierre relating to a stock purchase.

The suit effectively brought about the removal of Alfred from

company affairs. In 1920 his wife Alicia died, and a year later Alfred marired Jessie Ball of Virginia, a descendant of George Washington's mother. She was Alfred's third wife. He became interested in Florida real estate during the land boom of the 1920s. Aided ably by his brother-in-law Edward Ball, du Pont purchased large tracts of land from retreating speculators after the bubble broke. In 1926 Alfred moved to Florida, transferring assets amounting to some $34 million. In a mansion on the St. Johns River in Jacksonville du Pont and Ball put together a business and financial structure containing more than 300,000 acres of Florida land and the Florida National Bank chain. When Alfred died of a heart attack in 1935 he was worth about $60,000,000. His brother-in-law had become quite wealthy in his own right and controlled the Florida East Coast Railroad, originally built by Henry Flagler.

Gates brings the story up-to-date by relating the current controversy between Alfred Dent, the grandson of Alfred I. du Pont, and Ed Ball who manages the Nemours Foundation which received the bulk of du Pont's estate. Gates sets the current value of the foundation at $2,000,000,000. Dent contends that the foundation has not been run in accordance with Alfred's will because only a small percentage of the income has been used for charitable purposes. So far Ed Ball, who does not receive an income from the foundation, has successfully resisted all challenges to his control of the foundation. Indeed, the limited information about Ed Ball causes one to wonder if a critical study of the Florida multimillionaire might not be of more interest than some of the du Ponts.

Gates's *The du Pont Family* was not written as a critical, scholarly work. As a readable, popularized work written by a knowledgeable insider it does a good job.

Florida State University EDWARD F. KEUCHEL

Max Perkins, Editor of Genius. By A. Scott Berg. (New York: E. P. Dutton, 1978. 498 pp. Illustrations, acknowledgments, sources and notes, index. $15.00.)

American literature has seen two major peaks of creativity, the

so-called American Renaissance of the 1840s and 1850s and a second renaissance in the decades between the two world wars. In this second renaissance, one of the centers of creativity was, without question, Maxwell E. Perkins. He was not a poet or novelist or essayist but an editor at *Scribners*, a man little known, and until this present book, nearly unsung, but who in one way or another sponsored a truly astonishing number of the best-known authors of this century-Fitzgerald, Hemingway, Wolfe, Lardner, Caldwell, Sherwood Anderson, Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings, Taylor Caldwell, Alan Paton, Marcia Davenport, and James Jones -among others. If the word "great" is infrequently applied to editors, Perkins is surely one of those to whom it most applies; Mr. Berg's sub-title is quite accurate: "Editor of Genius."

I have personally known about this little-known man for more than twenty years, because in the course of doing a book on Marjorie Kinnan Rawlings, I read several hundred of his letters to her, and, at that time, knowing nothing about him except vaguely that he had been Thomas Wolfe's editor, I felt the warmth and power of the man's personality and his remarkable critical intelligence. So I have read this book with more than usual interest, and it seems to me to be a splendid piece of work, a happy blend of biography and literary history, scholarly, but also fast-paced and readable, a real contribution to our knowledge of this major period in American literature.

Perkins as a man is poignantly rendered-the Yankee reserve, the eccentricities, the awesome integrity, the warm heart, the loyalty. The account of the career as editor is fascinating, not only for the man himself, but because it interlocks with the lives, personal and professional, of his famous proteges, and one has the vivid sense of watching the unfolding of major literary events from a close inside view. One cycles through the major titles one at a time - *This Side of Paradise, The Sun Also Rises, Look Homeward Angel* - and in dozens of vignettes and anecdotes, many of them published here for the first time, one has intimate glimpses into the miseries and triumphs of the creative process, the lives of the authors, and the world of publishing.

As might be expected, Mr. Berg is most absorbed in the big three-Fitzgerald, Hemingway, and Wolfe-to the slighting of some other figures, among them Mrs. Rawlings. In his summary treatment of her work, he gives Perkins almost more credit for

her books than herself. She did as a matter of fact value Perkins's advice extremely, and he was a major and indispensable influence on her career, but it distorts the fact to give Perkins primacy. His special gift was, after all, the ability to draw out the best from his authors without usurping the creative function.

But one should not cavil about details. This is a big book, and a very good one. Scholars of the period could learn from it, and almost anyone should enjoy reading it.

University of Florida GORDON E. BIGELOW

A Streak of Luck: The Life and Legend of Thomas Alva Edison. By Robert Conot. (New York: Seaview Books, 1979. xvii, 565 pp. Acknowledgments, introduction, illustrations, appendices, reference guide, source notes, index. $15.95.)

Reformer in the Marketplace: Edward W. Bok and the Ladies' Home Journal. By Salme Harju Steinberg. (Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press, 1979. xix, 193 pp. Preface and acknowledgments, introduction, conclusions, notes, bibliography, index. $12.95.)

Thomas A. Edison acquired property in Fort Myers, Florida, in 1885, and shipped prefabricated buildings there to set up a laboratory. Starting in 1901 he regularly spent each February and March in Florida. Among his famous guests were Henry Ford and Harvey Firestone. Ford eventually acquired a home next door to the Firestone estate. The Edison home and laboratory are major tourist attractions in Florida today. Their most publicized project was a wide search for a source of natural rubber. Ford met Firestone first in 1896, and he became a great admirer and benefactor of the famous inventor, rebuilding the laboratories at Fort Myers, financing the search for rubber, and establishing the Edison Institute in the Greenfield Village complex in Dearborn, Michigan, where the early history of the Edison researches and inventions is preserved. Edison himself professed no love for the past; his interest was in the future. The Florida aspect of Edison's life and work is only incidental to a much larger story in a worldwide arena.

This is a fascinating story of the nation's most prolific inventor and certainly one of the best-known Americans in the world at the time of his death in 1931. The story is buttressed by a six-page Edison chronology which demonstrates the enormous number of projects which he as inventor and businessman carried on concurrently. He habitually organized companies to advertise and market the things he invented. There are sixty pages of source notes.

One impression comes strongly from the reading. It is remarkable that Edison ever achieved as much as he did. Actually he was not very well educated in the scientific areas in which he worked, nor was he really a practical man. He squandered fortunes on ill-advised ventures, was never free of lawsuits over patent rights, and he was often short of working capital. After describing in some detail each aspect of Edison's work, his biographer ends with an assessment of his genius. His success lay in the practical and topical nature of the problems he studied. He was the epitome of the practical inventor; he worked in the mainstream of technology or jumped into a developing field. He had great ability to gather around him talented and loyal associates who could supply all the technical knowledge he lacked, but who lacked the insight to make use of it. It was a remarkable partnership for both.

Edward Bok is best known to Floridians for the Bok Tower in the bird sanctuary he created near Lake Wales. This famous carillon which has become such a well-known Florida landmark is mentioned in only one sentence as an example of his public benefactions. The book is almost exclusively a business history of *The Ladies Home Journal*, the most successful pioneer in the mass circulation magazine field, the first to have one million subscribers. Bok edited the *Journal* from 1889 to 1919. It is almost as much the story of Cyrus H. K. Curtis, president of the Curtis Publishing Company which owned the *Journal* as well as the *Saturday Evening Post* and other publications. Between the two they satisfied the needs of the advertisers and the readers with only a minimum of conflict between themselves. They were among the first publishers in America to recognize the role being played by women in the marketplace, and they addressed their special appeals to them

There is doubt as to whether Bok reflected the middle class

culture or whether he led and helped shape it. He certainly was not the crusading editor characteristic of the muckraker journals popular at the time, and the *Ladies Home Journal* outlived most of them. He did champion two reforms, patent medicine and sex education for children, which cost the magazine some subscribers and the very lucrative patent medicine advertising contracts. He shared with the progressives of his day a faith in people, and in education as a guide to conduct. His vision of a beautiful America did not include billboards. It emphasized farm people and churches; churches which were interested in saving bodies and minds as well as souls. Unlike some other progressives he had unquestioning faith in the American business system. This book is valuable for its penetrating analysis of the America of Bok's day. The people have moved forward more rapidly than have the concepts of this publisher who for so long had been recognized as a spokesman for middle class values and objectives.

University of Miami CHARLTON W. TEBEAU

Judge Frank M. Johnson, Jr., a Biography. By Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. (New York: G. P. Putnam's Sons, 1978. 288 pp. Acknowledgment, introduction, preface, illustrations, notes, index. $10.95.)

Originally written as a senior thesis at Harvard, this brief study examines the character and career of U.S. District Judge Frank M. Johnson, Jr., whom the author declares has "almost single-handedly" changed Alabama into perhaps the "most progressive state in the Union in the areas of human and civil rights" (p. 24).

Judge Johnson is a native of Winston County, located in the red clay foothills of northwest Alabama, far from the traditional centers of influence and power in the Black Belt. Like his father, Johnson grew up a Republican, and his party loyalty in this staunchly Democratic state was rewarded in 1955 when President Eisenhower appointed him to the federal bench in Alabama's Middle District. At the age of thirty-seven, Johnson thus became the youngest federal judge in the country.

Within the next ten years, Johnson also established himself as one of the most active and enlightened federal judges in the South, handing down far-reaching decisions which desegregated schools, buses, recreational facilities, and waiting rooms, and which opened voting rolls to blacks in a number of counties for the first time since Reconstruction. In more recent years, Johnson has extended his fundamental belief that all human rights are protected by the Constitution to include inmates of Alabama's prisons and mental health facilities. In these controversial landmark cases, Judge Johnson ruled that Alabama had failed to provide adequate funds, staffs, and facilities to meet the basic human and rehabilitative needs of these two captive populations. As a remedy, he outlined lengthy and detailed guidelines for state officials to follow, an unprecedented involvement by the federal judiciary in a state's affairs.

Clearly, Frank Johnson's career provides an interesting focal point for the vast social changes which have occurred in Alabama over the last two decades. Yet Kennedy's study, in its brevity, offers us only brief glimpses at the very heart of that career: Johnson's civil rights decisions. The background to the cases and the issues involved are sparingly presented. At the same time, the decisions themselves are strung together in a basic chronological format with no sustained effort either to analyze or to characterize them with a unifying theme.

On the one hand, for example, Kennedy appears to argue that Johnson is in fact a judicial conservative, initially ruling against black litigants in *Gomillion v. Lightfoot*, the famous Tuskegee gerrymander case, and refusing to use busing to achieve a racial balance in desegregated schools. On the other hand, Johnson's clear activism in most civil rights cases, in the Alabama reapportionment case, and in the prison and mental health cases remains unquestioned. Kennedy never adequately explains this apparent contradiction in Johnson's philosophy, except to contend that he consistently acted only when state officials had abdicated their responsibilities. Such an explanation only begs the question, however, since most federal action is predicated on state and local inaction.

Essentially, and perhaps unfortunately, Kennedy has chosen to write only a narrative and anecdotal account of the judge's life, casting his subject as a hero of the progressive South who is

constantly at odds with the proponents of resistance, led by George Wallace. Since this does not purport to be a scholarly work, it cannot really be faulted for its paucity of citations, although one constantly yearns for more documentation. Kennedy apparently had no access to any of Johnson's private papers and has relied instead on newspapers, interviews, and court records for his information.

Thus, for those students of the recent South who are interested in Johnson's career, this study offers only a starting point, and it will surely be followed by more scholarly and analytical works which can begin to plumb the depths of this intriguing and complex man.

Birmingham Public Library, Archives ROBERT G. CORLEY

BOOK NOTES

The Florida Handbook, 1979-1980, compiled by Allen Morris, like the earlier editions in this series, is a valuable reference book. Nowhere else can one find the kind of information and data on departments and agencies of Florida government. Included also are articles dealing with state history, including Florida's role in the American Revolution and the Confederacy. Government departments and boards are listed together with mailing addresses and descriptions of duties and responsibilities. The history of Florida's counties and origin of their names, Florida literature, voting statistics, and a list of political party officers are also included. One can find information on the state's congressional delegation, citrus, minerals, wildlife, fishing, livestock, major bridges, parks and historic sites, and a copy of the State Constitution. Along with everything else the *Handbook* informs us that Eugenia Simmons of Okeechobee County was Florida's first woman sheriff and that Mrs. Fay Bridges was the first woman in Florida to vote. She cast her ballot at a polling station on the porch of the general store in Sneads (Jackson County). *The Florida Handbook,* published by Peninsular Publishing Company, Tallahassee, sells for $10.95.

St. Augustine is undoubtedly one of the most widely photographed communities in the United States. Visitors have been snapping pictures of its historic monuments, narrow streets, and tropical vegetation ever since photography first came into vogue. Mark Tellier has collected a number of these historic pictures, some dating to the 1860s, and has published them in *St. Augustine's Pictures of the Past: A Second Discovery*. Photographs of the first excursion train coming into St. Augustine in 1883, old views of the downtown streets-King, Bay, St. George, Charlotte-Henry Flagler's lavish hotels, the beach, and the Castillo de San Marcos are included. Order from the author, 9½ North Park Avenue, St. Augustine 32084; the price is $6.50.

Key West, The Last Resort is a guidebook of Key West written by Chris Sherril and Roger Aiello. It includes a brief

history of the Keys, and information on restoration, sightseeing, and natural history. And the people who live in Key West-conchs, Cubans, blacks, hippies, gays-are described, along with details on cultural and economic activities of the area. There is a list of artists and writers who live or visit there and information on festivals and entertainments. Photographs of several properties, before and after restoration, and some, like the Convent of Mary Immaculate, which have been demolished, are included. There is even a recipe for Key Lime pie (p. 170). *Key West, The Last Resort,* with illustrations by Mac Dryden, was published by Key West Book and Card Company, Key West 33040; it sells for $4.95.

On the Bethel Trail is by the Reverend Mr. Enoch Douglas Davis who has lived in St. Petersburg for more than fifty years. He holds degrees from Florida Memorial College, Florida A & M University, and the Interdenominational Theological Seminary in Atlanta. When Mr. Davis first arrived in St. Petersburg in 1925, Florida was in the throes of its great land boom, and jobs were plentiful for skilled and unskilled workers. He earned $21.00 a week, most of which helped support his family. Davis was interested in activities relating to his religious faith, however, and he preached his first sermon at Bethel Community Baptist Church in May 1930. Later he was ordained, and in 1932 became Bethel's pastor. This book is not only an autobiography and the story of Davis's ministry, it is a history of the black struggle for economic and political rights in the Tampa Bay area. Mr. Davis was one of the leaders in that struggle, and through his efforts the working and living conditions of blacks have been improved and white-black relations have been eased. Himself the son of a slave, the Reverend Mr. Davis notes how much the South has changed in the last two decades. Blacks, he points out, can now "eat with, ride with and study with those of other colors without fear of being lynched, mobbed or otherwise molested." *On the Bethel Trail* was published by Valkyrie Press, St. Petersburg, and it sells for $4.95.

Florida In Pictures (Visual Geography Series), by George S. Fichter, is a collection of approximately 100 candid photographs describing the communities, economy, government, and history

of Florida. Published by Sterling Publishing Company, New York, the hardback edition sells for $4.95, the paperback, $2.50.

John Forbes' Description of the Spanish Florida, 1804 was edited by Dr. William S. Coker of the University of West Florida. Dr. Coker, who is director of the project that is collecting all of the pertinent manuscript material relating to Panton, Leslie & Co. and John Forbes and Company, has written a lengthy introduction which provides valuable background information on this area of Florida and this period of history. Coker points out that on a visit to Washington in the spring of 1804, after the purchase of Louisiana by the United States, John Forbes discussed with the Marques de Casa Irujo, the Spanish ambassador, a number of general matters relating to West Florida and specifically to his own business operations. Casa Irujo asked for a description of Florida, and the document which Dr. Coker has edited is what Forbes produced for the ambassador. The manuscript includes three parts: physical description, trade policies, and recommendations for a new governmental setup for West Florida. Forbes believed that if his recommendations were put into operation, West Florida could become one of the most prosperous agriculture and commercial settlements in Spain's American empire. The document was first written in English, and was then translated and dispatched to Spain. The original manuscript and the map which accompanied it have never been found. However, a new map, based upon Forbes's description, has been prepared by Jerome F. Coling, and it is included in this publication. The index was compiled by Polly Coker. *John Forbes' Description* was published by Perdido Bay Press (Rt. 2, Box 323), Pensacola; it sells for $4.50.

Ruth Bryan Owen Rhode, daughter of former Secretary of State William Jennings Bryan, was a nurse during World War I, member of the faculty of the University of Miami, and the first woman to represent Florida in the Congress. She also became the first American woman to become a minister to a foreign country. President Franklin Roosevelt nominated her in 1933 as Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to Denmark, and she was unanimously confirmed by the senate. There is a brief sketch of Mrs. Rhode in *Women in American Foreign Affairs*

by Homer L. Calkin, published by the United States Department of State (1977).

Foreign Enterprise in Florida, The Impact of Non-U.S. Direct Investment is by Mira Wilkins, professor of economics at Florida International University. Based on public and private published and unpublished data, it describes the activities and interests of foreign firms in Florida. It was published by the University Presses of Florida, Gainesville, and it sells for $15.00.

Everyone who sailed or was interested in boats in the area agreed that the establishment of the "Lauderdale Yacht Club was Inevitable." Organized in 1938, it helped to meet the recreational and sporting needs of the citizens of a community whose history since Indian Days has been associated with the water. Sailing and racing are primary activities of the club, but the social proclivities of its members have never been neglected. For the occasion of its fiftieth anniversary, it was agreed that a history of the Yacht Club was needed, and Fort Lauderdale's special historian was tapped to take on this responsibility. August Burghard, author of a number of books which help record the history of Fort Lauderdale, is the author of the *History of Lauderdale Yacht Club, 1938-1978.*

Key West, by Burt Hirschfeld, is a novel of intrigue and romance with the Florida Keys serving as a backdrop for the action. Published by William Morrow and Company, New York, it sells for $9.95.

John of the Mountains, The Unpublished Journals of John Muir is a paperback reprint of a long-out-of-print volume. It was published by the University of Wisconsin Press of Madison, Wisconsin. Muir carried notebooks with him as he explored the wilderness areas of America, and he set down his impressions of what he saw and did. One section of his journal deals with the Southeast and the journey that he made into Florida in 1898. He visited St. Augustine, Miami, Key West, and Palatka. Muir had come to Florida once before, in 1867, and he worked in a sawmill at Cedar Key. On his later visit he sought out the lady, now living in Archer, Florida, who had nursed him through

a near fatal attack of malarial fever. She remembered him as "the finest, handsomest young man one could hope to see." This paperback sells for $6.95.

Schooling for the New Slavery: Black Industrial Education, 1865-1950 is by Donald Spivey and is in Greenwood Press's Contributions in Afro-American and African Studies series. The slaves were legally free after the Civil War, but yet they remained in bondage because of the economic conditions that enmeshed them. In the rural areas the tenant system locked them in, and in the cities they became industrial chattels. Black intellectuals like W. E. B. DuBois and William Monroe Trotter opposed industrial schooling because they believed that it would deter black progress and indefinitely postpone equality. Many blacks, and a majority of America's white community, believed that vocational education was not only practical but necessary for whites and blacks alike. The Hampton Institute in Virginia, and later the Tuskegee Institute under Booker T. Washington, became prototypes for southern industrial schooling. Their curricula became models for the Negro Normal School, later Florida A. & M. University, established in Tallahassee in 1887. Railroad construction, mining, and cotton seed oil manufacturing were some of the industries that needed black labor, and these schools were supposed to help meet the demands. Blacks thus provided the basis for the South's economy both before and after the Civil War. Greenwood Press, Westport, Connecticut, published this volume which sells for $14.95.

The Cherokees, A Critical Bibliography, by Raymond D. Fogelson, is in the bibliographical series published by the Newberry Library Center of the History of the American Indian. Dr. Francis Jennings serves as general editor for the series. The Cherokees have been one of the most extensively studied of the North American tribes, and the literature concerning them is vast. During the colonial period and at the time of the American Revolution, the Cherokees played a critical role on the southern frontier. Although they became a "Civilized Tribe," they were forced to leave their traditional homes and traverse the Trail of Tears to the West. The index lists 347 items, including books and articles, several of which are pertinent to the Florida

frontier. Published by Indiana University Press, Bloomington, Indiana, this paperback volume sells for $4.95.

Museums in Motion, An Introduction to the History and Functions of Museums, by Edward T. Alexander, was published by the American Association for State and Local History, Nashville. It is one of a series of informative books aimed at helping local, state, and regional historical agencies and museums in developing and interpreting their resources. *Museums in Motion* traces the rise of art, natural sciences, technological, historical, botanical, and zoological museums since the eighteenth century. The traditional role of museums as collector, conservator, and researcher is examined, and the function of modern exhibition, interpretation, and service to communities is defined. While Florida museums are not listed, several, including the Florida State Museum at the University of Florida, may have been used as examples of museums which provide a variety of services to the community. This volume sells for $12.95. The price for AASLH members is $9.75.

Funding Sources and Technical Assistance for Museums and Historical Agencies was compiled by Hedey Hartman as a guide to public programs. It is another of the important volumes being published by the American Association for State and Local History, Nashville, Tennessee. The objectives of each granting agency are listed, along with pertinent information on the type of assistance, uses and use restrictions, eligibility, assistance considerations, and range and average amounts of available financial assistance. There is also the name, address, and telephone number of each agency. All entries are preceeded by a symbol in the margin to facilitate the use of the listing; H is the entry applying to history organizations and museums. This handy, well-organized guide sells for $10.00. The price is $7.50 to AASLH members.

Have We Overcome? Race Relations Since Brown is the collection of papers presented at the 1978 Chancellors Symposium on Southern History at the University of Mississippi. It includes essays by C. Eric Lincoln, Vincent Harding, Henry M. Levin, William E. Leuchtenburg, Robert W. Wiebe, Morton J. Hor-

witz, and Lerone Bennett, Jr. The volume was edited by Michael V. Namorato. The price is $7.95 for the paperback edition. The University Press of Mississippi, Jackson, is the publisher.

The Life and Adventures of Daniel Boone by Michael A. Lofaro is one of the volumes published by the University Press of Kentucky for its Kentucky Bicentennial Bookshelf series. While not a lengthy book, as is true of all in this series, it is based upon primary sources, including the material in the Draper Manuscript Collection in the library of the State Historical Society of Wisconsin. It is from these documents that we learn of Boone's interest in Florida and his visit in 1765. Together with his brother Squire and their brother-in-law John Stuart, Boone explored East Florida and sailed the St. Johns. He encountered a Seminole Indian camp and gave an Indian girl a small shaving-glass. Daniel was so intrigued with Pensacola that he purchased a house and town lot there, but his wife was adament about living in Florida, and the family moved West instead, *The Life and Adventures of Daniel Boone* sells for $4.95.

Heroes of Tennessee was edited by Billy M. Jones and was published by Memphis State University Press, Memphis, Tennessee. Two of the essays, "Daniel Boone" by Emmett Essin and "Andrew Jackson" by Robert V. Remini, have a special interest for Florida readers because of their connections with this state. Other well-known personalities represented in this volume are John Sevier, Nancy Ward, Sequoyah, David Crockett, Nathan Bedford Forrest, Sam Davis, Casey Jones, Alvin C. York, and Tom Lee. The essays have been written by historians who are prominent in the study and writing of Tennessee history. The price for this volume is $10.95.