

REVIEWS

INTERDISCIPLINARY RALLY: THE PURDUE CONFERENCE OF 1965

NEW VOICES IN AMERICAN STUDIES.

Edited by Ray B. Browne, Donald M. Winkelman and Allen Hayman. West Lafayette: Purdue University Studies. 1966. \$4.75.

New Voices in American Studies consists of a series of interesting and wide-ranging essays originally presented at the Midwest Conference on Literature, History, Popular Culture and Folklore in 1965, the purpose of which was "to demonstrate the need for a closer alliance among the various disciplines comprising 'American Studies.'" But rather than demonstrate that "interrelationship and mutual necessity of different disciplines and [suggest] fruitful new approaches," as its jacket claims, this volume raises once again the perennial questions concerning the very nature of the discipline of American Studies.

The title of the volume is misleading. The "voices" are not new; Louis Filler, Russell B. Nye and Edwin H. Cady are among several contributors whose writings are familiar to students of American culture. And with several conspicuous exceptions (especially Bruno Nettl's illuminating discussion of Indian ethnomusicology and Americo Paredes' informed essay on Anglo American stereotypes in Mexican folklore), the promise of "new" directions and approaches is not realized. The primary focus is still overwhelmingly literary, the approach to the study of American culture that has long dominated the discipline of American Studies. Although the admirable call is made for the inclusion of folklore and music within the discipline, the important questions of the precise relevance and contribution of each of the disciplines represented in New Voices to the study of American culture is assumed, not demonstrated. Finally, New Voices, primarily concerned with substantive issues, is characterized by a notable lack of concern with methodological innovations.

The American Studies concept as it has been traditionally conceived and as it is here represented has been defined and defended as a means of providing new perspectives and raising new hypotheses about American culture. The result has been an almost exclusive focus upon substantive issues and concern about the means by which hypotheses are derived. Too little

attention has been directed to the corollary problem of deriving means of assessing the merits of the hypotheses themselves. The raising of hypotheses is but one aspect of the scholar's craft. If American Studies is to redeem its promise, it must begin to address itself to the laborious, often tedious, but essential questions of verification.

University of Kansas

Norman Yetman

HISTIOGRAPHY

AMERICAN INTELLECTUAL HISTORIES AND HISTORIANS. By Robert Allen Skotheim. Princeton: Princeton University Press. 1966. \$6.95.

This book, as they say, raises some interesting questions. The most interesting is why it was written at all. For the most part it is only a guided tour of all the familiar shrines of American intellectual history visited by every dutiful historian time and again over the years. To be sure, the guide is accurate, informed, well-spoken and polite. But the shrines built by Tyler and Eggleston and Robinson, by Beard, Becker, Parrington and Curti, by Morison, Miller, Gabriel, Commager, Persons and a few others appear no different this time round than they did the time before -- without the guide.

Mr. Skotheim's intention, so he writes, was not to undertake a "definitive investigation of all the problems and achievements of Americans who have dealt with their country's intellectual past." What he has done instead -- this he does not say -- is to systematize what everyone already knows about the more important shapers of American intellectual history. It is no longer news that Tyler, Eggleston and Robinson sought to free American history from the prejudices of political and institutional historians. It is no longer news that Parrington, Becker, Beard, Curti and anyone else you'd care to name wrote their social biases into their works. Nor is it news that Curti's approach to intellectual history is not Miller's approach, that intellectual historians in the past 20 years have become more sophisticated -- and more alike -- in their notions about the relations between ideas and environments, that since the 1930's intellectual historians have been affected by totalitarianism. The staple of this book is the obvious, presented obviously: despite Beard's "implied attribution of considerable creative causal force to certain scientific and democratic reform ideas," Mr. Skotheim writes in a typical passage, "The Rise of American Civilization was in the main a study in economic interpretation." So I recall.

William B. Hesseltine used to say -- I got a different version than the one Mr. Skotheim quotes -- that writing intellectual history was like trying to nail a hunk of Jell-o to a barn door. No easy job under the best of condi-

tions, it's a lot harder when you've got a dull nail. Mr. Skotheim has taken Carl Becker's old saw that written histories are themselves documents in the history of ideas and used it as a justification for a pleasant, lucid and unnecessary work.

University of Kansas

C. S. Griffin

HISTORY

WENDELL WILLKIE: Fighter for Freedom. By Ellsworth Barnett. Marquette: Northern Michigan University Press. 1966. \$7.50.

Mr. Barnett's primary goal in writing this book "has been to record . . . the essential facts in the life of Wendell Willkie." Barnett records a great quantity of facts and quotes from a number of heretofore unused sources. That, however, does not make a good biography, for the biographer fails to reflect adequate knowledge of the context, the politics of the late 1930's and early 1940's, in which his subject operated as a political figure. Consequently, Willkie appears as a champion of freedom, whose armor, put on him by Barnett, conceals most of his blemishes. Despite the new material in this book, it must be said that a balanced, carefully researched biography of the 1940 Republican presidential nominee remains to be written.

University of Kansas

Donald R. McCoy

RAILROAD AND REGULATION, 1877-1916. By Gabriel Kolko. Princeton: Princeton University Press. 1965. \$5.00.

This is a fascinating book because of its basic argument. The author claims that the railroad magnates of the late 19th and early 20th centuries were in favor of government regulation of their industry. The railroads had tried private pools and mergers, but both had failed, for various reasons, to eliminate "excessive competition." Government regulation was the only available means of stabilizing the industry.

If Professor Kolko is correct, economists and historians should re-think their analysis of the influence of laissez faire in the American business community. As an economist I tried Professor Kolko's hypothesis on an unsuspecting historian colleague. "I don't believe it," he said. And I too am unconvinced, even after reading about a wealth of evidence. I must re-read some other authorities and read Kolko's other works.

Northern Illinois University

Lester S. Levy

THE REVOLUTIONARY THEME IN CONTEMPORARY AMERICA. Edited by Thomas R. Ford. Lexington: University of Kentucky Press. 1965.

Thomas R. Ford, Professor of Sociology at the University of Kentucky and coordinator of its Centennial Conference in April, 1965, selected four of the lectures of that occasion for this 99-page volume. Only two essays of the four are concerned with the revolutionary theme in American life.

Seymour Martin Lipset ("Revolution and Counter-Revolution -- The United States and Canada") analyzes the "modes of interaction" of Americans and Canadians, finds American patterns set by equalitarian revolutionary traditions and Canadian patterns set by Tory, counter-revolutionary British-Empire foundations.

C. Herman Pritchett ("Judicial Revolution and American Democracy") describes a basic revolution in American jurisprudence in the Supreme Court's adoption of an active, interventionist role in the interpretation of constitutionality. He finds the conservative years of this intervention now being replaced by the Court's liberal spur to social reform.

The two other essays treat contemporary social forces which, it is proposed, are molding America into new, radical patterns.

Max Lerner briefly describes "Six Revolutions in American Life," those of weapons technology, uprooting, access, cultural and intellectual explosion, leisure time and (potential) values. He counsels on the channeling of these new forces to save and expand the creative promise of mankind.

Peter Drucker ("The Revolution in Higher Education") notes the increased demand of the society for highly educated personnel and predicts that we are changing from a Welfare State to a "Knowledge State" in which education will be central in national purpose.

Wayne State University

Abraham F. Citron

THE CLASH AND ATTRACTION OF TWO CULTURES: The Hispanic and Anglo-Saxon Worlds in America. By Angel del Rfo. Translated and Edited by James F. Shearer. Baton Rouge: Louisiana State University Press. 1965. \$5.00.

This brief volume surveys cultural relations between Anglo-Saxon America and the Spanish-speaking world from colonial times to the present. It consists of amplified versions of two lectures delivered by Professor del Rfo in various South American cities on a 1959 lecture tour. The first, "Spain and the United States," is the longer of the two and the more valu-

able. Of especial interest is the section dealing with opinions and impressions of the United States offered by visiting Spaniards. The second lecture treats the more familiar themes of intra-hemispheric unity and conflict. The author's appraisal of inter-American relations is thoughtful and unmarred by bias. However it adds little to our understanding of this timely subject.

University of New Mexico
Winfield J. Burggraaff

SCIENCE

THE CHALLENGE OF SCIENCE. By George Boas. Seattle: University of Washington Press. 1965. \$2.95.

One picks up this book expecting to find the distilled wisdom of a mature philosopher, only to be met with thoughts diffuse and confusing. These John Danz Lectures are divided into the challenge of science to art, philosophy and religion, but only the first states a clear-cut issue. Science consists of verified generalizations and is necessarily social. Art expresses personal character and creates a knowledge highly individual, not to be subjected to the canons of verification.

A variety of challenges and impacts of science are scattered about: it severs us from real life and makes us forget the common sense level where the real problems of life arise; it leads to "massive terror" over the misuses of science; it can cause "moral inertia"; it suggests an absolute determinism of atoms. If you are looking for a considered study of the challenge of scientific thought to philosophy and religion and the response which these disciplines have made to that challenge, you will not find it here.

University of Kansas

Edward E. Daub

JOHN MORGAN: Continental Doctor. By Whitfield J. Bell, Jr. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press. 1965. \$6.50.

"The light that failed" would be a proper title for this account of a man who promised so much and delivered so little. Born in Philadelphia in 1735, he acquired an excellent education before spending nearly four years as surgeon with the Pennsylvania Provincial troops. Then came three years in London and Edinburgh under the tutelage of the finest physicians, and a lengthy Grand Tour on which he met Voltaire. On returning to Philadelphia he made an impressive start as a medical educator but he soon dissipated his energies in feuding. He did not suffer opponents gladly and at his death in 1789 was more remembered for his spite than his services.

University of Missouri

Charles F. Mullett

MINORITY GROUPS

THE NEGRO IN AMERICA: A Bibliography. Compiled by Elizabeth W. Miller with a forward by Thomas F. Pettigrew. Cambridge: Harvard University Press. 1966. \$2.95.

THE NEGRO IN THE UNITED STATES: A Research Guide. By Erwin K. Welsch. Bloomington: Indiana University Press. 1965. \$5.00 (Paper \$1.85).

One of the most important consequences of the civil rights movement has been a vast increase in the attention devoted to the subject of the Negro in America. A voluminous amount of literature -- both scholarly and popular, the dispassionate as well as the polemical -- has appeared since the Supreme Court issued its historic school desegregation decision in 1954. As the amount of material written on the subject has proliferated, the need for a comprehensive bibliography of the literature pertaining to the Negro has become acute. Standard works such as Gunnar Myrdal's monumental An American Dilemma, John Hope Franklin's From Slavery to Freedom and E. Franklin Frazier's The Negro in the United States contain extensive and extremely useful bibliographical appendices, but each of these antedated the recent surge of interest in the Negro; hence, the group is outdated. However, even those works which have appeared recently, such as Thomas F. Pettigrew's comprehensive Profile of the American Negro, which contains an excellent bibliography, provide little more than a sample of the relevant literature.

The need for a systematic bibliographic survey has been admirably filled with the appearance of Elizabeth K. Miller's The Negro in America: A Bibliography, which organizes the vast literature that has appeared since 1954 -- books, articles, documents and pamphlets -- in useful reference form. The more significant of these items are annotated. In addition to the survey of materials already published, it contains a valuable list of general bibliographical aids and suggestions for sources for continuing research. An outgrowth of the recent superb Daedalus symposium on the Negro American (Fall, 1965, Winter, 1966), the bibliography reflects the contemporaneous concern pervading that debate. The material is organized largely in terms of its relevance to the major issues today confronting the Negro -- employment, housing, education, public accommodations, political rights and urban problems, among others. Two final sections deal with "The Freedom Revolution" and "Black Nationalism."

While The Negro in America contains over 3,500 items, it is of necessity a selective bibliography, and omissions in its compilation were inevitable. What is impressive about this volume, however, is that they are so few and so relatively insignificant. My primary objection is that, reflecting the ubiquitous concern with the state of the contemporary Negro, historical developments have been slighted. The outstanding books on Negro history are listed, but many noteworthy journal articles that deserve inclusion have been omitted. The volume reflects, above all, the currency of the issue of the Negro in American culture. For the task of aiding scholars concerned with the status of the contemporary Negro it is unlikely to be surpassed for some time to come. Scholars in the field will find it an indispensable reference work.

Less comprehensive than Miller's volume is Erwin K. Welsch's The Negro in the United States: A Research Guide, which is intended primarily as a critical introduction to scholarship in the field. It is comprised of an annotated bibliography, presented chronologically, of the major works dealing with the history of the Negro in American culture. Its coverage is restricted almost exclusively to books published in the field, neglecting a great number of important articles and documents. Despite the fact that its annotations are occasionally misleading (Stanley Elkins' Slavery is a comparative study of slavery systems in the United States and the Spanish and Portuguese, not French, colonies in the New World), this volume should prove a valuable guide to the beginning student. For both audiences -- the serious scholar and the introductory student -- these works have been long overdue and should provide an impetus to further research in the ever widening field of race relations.

University of Kansas

Norman Yetman

THE NEGRO IN NORTH CAROLINA
1876-1894. By Frenise A. Logan.
Chapel Hill: The University of North
Carolina Press. 1964. \$6.00.

This slim volume is a welcome addition to the growing number of state studies on the Negro in nineteenth century American life. Professor Logan presents a factual narrative -- organized topically -- describing the political, economic and social strivings of North Carolina Negroes during the period of Democratic party rule between 1877 and 1894.

As far as North Carolina is concerned, the theory that the "nadir" of Negro life was reached in the nineteenth century is not supported by this book. There were successful efforts at repression. But political activity did not end during the period of Bourbon rule, and economic and educational progress continued. In addition, due in large measure to the North Carolina Supreme Court, no rigid Jim Crow system buttressed by statutes appeared.

Although slightly marred by proofreading oversights and stylistic weaknesses, this work merits the attention of students of the period.

Illinois Teachers College: Chicago-South

Arvarh E. Strickland

CARPETBAGGER'S CRUSADE: The Life of Albion Winegar Tourgee. By Otto H. Olsen. Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Press. 1965. \$7.95.

In the re-evaluation of the Reconstruction period which is now taking place, Albion Winegar Tourgee has been brought to the surface and introduced to the modern generation of civil rights advocates as a forebear to whom they can point with considerable pride. At least three dissertations have been done on Tourgee in the past ten years. This expansion of Professor Olsen's is the second to reach publication, and it is an impressive piece of workmanship. Based in large measure on long neglected Tourgee papers which the author rediscovered, it presents a thorough and balanced picture of the man and his work.

Westminster College (Missouri)

Wm. E. Parrish

FOLKLORE

THE STUDY OF FOLKLORE. Edited by Alan Dundes. Englewood Cliffs, N. J.: Prentice-Hall, Inc. 1965. \$5.95.

Collections of reprinted essays and articles have been slow to appear in the field of folkloristics. The Study of Folklore, one of the first to be published, has as its primary purpose to introduce readers to the discipline. Twenty-nine selections deal with the definition, origin, form, transmission and functions of folklore. The five selected studies in the concluding section are concerned with topics ranging from an historical consideration of Pennsylvania Dutch barn symbols to the excellent comparative study of variants of the North American Indian Star Husband tale by Stith Thompson.

One of the most laudable features of this anthology is the editorial apparatus. Dundes introduces each of the six divisions with a short but informative discussion of the topic to be explored. In addition, extensive headnotes are included for each essay, and the editor has added explanatory and bibliographical footnotes at appropriate places within each selection. A section titled "Suggestions for Further Reading in Folklore" (475-481) provides a good selected bibliography of basic works in the field.

Collections of reprinted readings always reflect the biases of their editors, and this one is no exception. The orientation is anthropological

and psychological, with articles by William Bascom, Clyde Kluckhohn and Robert Lowie, among others, representing the former viewpoint and selections by such persons as Ernest Jones, Martha Wolfenstein and William H. Desmond representing the latter. And while most of the genres of folklore are considered at some point, essays on the folk narrative predominate.

The Study of Folklore will be of interest primarily to the general reader and to the beginning student. The professional folklorist will probably find the viewpoint too restricted, and the teacher of folklore courses might discover that the book is too expensive and too difficult to adapt for regular classroom use.

University of Kansas

Robert A. Georges

THE MORPHOLOGY OF NORTH AMERICAN INDIAN FOLKTALES. By Alan Dundes. Folklore Fellows Communications, No. 195. Helsinki: Finnish Academy of Science and Letters. 1964.

Research on the folk narrative of the North American Indians has been largely restricted over the years to small corpuses of tales from individual tribes. While sociocultural and content analyses of such limited bodies of material have been common, few theoretical studies have appeared. It is for this reason that Dundes' The Morphology of North American Indian Folktales should attract widespread attention.

The central thesis of this monograph is that North American Indian folktales are highly structured. Relying heavily on Kenneth Pike's Language in Relation to a Unified Theory of the Structure of Human Behavior (1954) and the English translation of Vladimir Propp's Morphology of the Folktale (1958), Dundes isolates a minimal structural unit which he calls the motifeme. He notes that there are "definite recurrent sequences of motifemes and these sequences constitute a limited number of distinct patterns which empirical observation reveals are the structural bases of the majority of North American Indian folktales" (61).

Regarding each motifemic pattern as a structural model, Dundes identifies and describes four such patterns which he has discerned in a large number of traditional Indian tales: a two-motifeme sequence, Lack, Lack Liquidated; a four-motifeme sequence, Interdiction, Violation, Consequence and Attempted Escape; a four-motifeme sequence, Lack, Deceit, Deception, Lack Liquidated; and a six-motifeme sequence, which combines the two-motifeme sequence with one of the four-motifeme sequences. Thus, according to Dundes' analysis, many versions of the two well-known North American Indian folktales "The Eye Juggler" and "Orpheus" are structurally identical, for both combine the Lack-Lack Liquidated sequence with the Interdiction-Violation-Consequence-Attempted Escape pattern.

While the heart of the study is the actual morphological analysis, Dundes also devotes considerable space to a survey of past studies of North American Indian folktales, to a summary of general developments in the field of structural analysis, and to a consideration of the probable implications of structural studies for folkloristics.

Although there are a number of assertions made in the monograph which are either unclear or highly questionable (e.g., the comment that some of the motifs, such as the Lack, can be implied as well as directly stated, and that some motifs are optional while others are obligatory), The Morphology of North American Indian Folktales should have a significant impact on folktale theory and methodology.

University of Kansas

Robert A. Georges

LITERATURE

THE PULITZER PRIZE NOVELS: A
Critical Backward Look. By W. J.
Stuckey. Norman: University of Okla-
homa Press. 1966. \$4.95.

For a long time there has been a lot of grumbling about the quality of Pulitzer Prize winning novels, but no one has had the fortitude to undertake a minute examination of the honorees that would confirm or dispel the usual rumor.

Now at last William Joseph Stuckey has ventured into the attic to emerge almost overcome by dust but still able to gasp out the evidence that things are even worse than we have supposed. Only about half a dozen of the novels still belong in the library; it's the pulp mill for the bulk of them.

Why such ephemera won we shall probably never know, for Stuckey stresses especially that the selection committee refuses to discuss its proceedings. Denied the materials necessary to write a history of the award, Stuckey has been forced to turn his account principally into a reference guide for those who will surely not even want to tread where he has rushed in.

Nobody should have to read so many bad books as closely as Stuckey has; yet we are fortunate that a young critic with a fastidious taste based on New Critical principles has managed to survive his task without losing his balance. Perhaps he somewhat underrates The Grapes of Wrath and overrates All the King's Men, but he is sound enough on those novels that I have read to lead me to trust his judgment on those that I have not -- and probably will not.

W. F.

The University of Minnesota Pamphlets on American Writers (Paper only)

HENRY MILLER. By George Wickes.
Minneapolis: University of Minnesota
Press. 1966. \$.65.

Our reviewers covering this excellent series have sometimes complained that in the case of a given author or topic, the format simply will not allow an adequate statement. In the present instance, the problem is that the author simply cannot be summarized, nor his career adequately surveyed. Miller is, at his best, as Wickes says, a writer of attitudes, not ideas, but the attitudes are not consistent. Neither are the ideas which keep intruding. As for the career, either Miller didn't cooperate or Wickes hasn't asked him, for Henry Miller does not convey a satisfactory chronological record of its subject's life. Wickes is thus unable to answer either those questions about which we have legitimate curiosity (What was the proofreading job, as punctuator of catastrophes in Paris, really like? How long did Miller hold it?) or those which are none of our business (Was the subject of this or that sexual bout a real girl?). Wickes makes sensible judgments about Miller's books, and his survey of the order of their publication is good to have. He seems unnecessarily tentative, however, in handling Miller's mysticism (he often puts the word in quotation marks), failing to see, I think, that the joy in filth and degradation which he reports can be understood as part of a mystic's Way. Miller shares very explicit occult attitudes with other (and better) writers of what Tindall calls "poetic novels" -- Dostoevski, Melville, Joyce, Woolf, Salinger and so on -- and, since this is what the Zen-nicks and the Beat respond to most (next to the sex, perhaps) in Miller, it would be useful to have it all spelled out.

SGL

THE DEVELOPMENT OF ABSTRACTIONISM IN THE WRITINGS OF GERTRUDE STEIN. By Michael J. Hoffman. Philadelphia: University of Pennsylvania Press. 1965. \$5.00.

Mr. Hoffman's book is a rarity in recent literary criticism: it works both in intent and execution. Limiting his scope to Gertrude Stein's first productive decade (1903-1914), Mr. Hoffman traces the development of the stylistic concepts and techniques Miss Stein employed on her way to literary abstractionism. By sticking to close analyses of the stylistic structures of ten key works and by eschewing both evaluative and comparative criticism, the author maintains a clarity and discipline desperately needed in

Stein studies after such horrors as Frederick J. Hoffman's 1961 monograph and Ben Reid's 1958 book. Michael Hoffman's stylistic analyses are based neither on the old pedantry of charts and statistics nor on the new pedantry of "stylistics": they are based simply on good taste and common sense, combined with seriousness and intelligence, and they are written in a graceful, scholarly style only very rarely dogged in pace and tone.

If anything is disappointing about the book it is that it creates but (intentionally) doesn't fulfill the need for a wider and deeper criticism of Gertrude Stein's work. Primarily, Miss Stein's abstractionism now needs a comparative approach, one which would trace with similar precision the growth and structure of the Stein style in relation to its sources and analogues, and to developments in modern English and European philosophy, literature and art. True, Mr. Hoffman does veer a few times toward such an approach, but he wisely doesn't derail his book in order to write this hypothetical other one. Yet, having cleared the air of the cant and gossip surrounding Miss Stein's work, and having written the first genuine criticism of it, Mr. Hoffman -- or someone of his talents -- may perhaps go on now to capitalize on this accomplishment.

University of Wisconsin

Donald Sheehan

EDITH WHARTON AND HENRY JAMES:

The Story of Their Friendship. By Millicent Bell. George Braziller. 1965. \$6.50.

In the preface the author describes her 341-page work as a biography of neither Henry James nor Edith Wharton, but rather of a friendship that flourished between them. Despite the fact Miss Bell acknowledges that Wharton's own collection of correspondence has been withheld from scrutiny in certain closed archives in the Yale University Library, and will not be shown until 1968, she intrepidly maintains, "For the particular story I have wanted to tell here, the facts proved actually available and plentiful." There is no denying so private a claim, and Miss Bell does weave a knowledgeable impression of their friendship. Yet considering the size of her loom, her materials are more gossamer than tulle. For alarmingly long sections of the work the principals in this friendship are on vacation while friends of these friends predominate. Or, as often, if James and Wharton ostensibly remain in focus, the tenor of their relationship is muted by Miss Bell's having wandered afield into the weeds of their literary production. In short, the substantive matter of her announced theme does not justify the length of such a book. In and of itself, however, it does document the relatively short history of a temperate, sometimes warm, always dignified and astute personal and literary friendship.

University of Kansas

Floyd R. Horowitz

THE SINS OF THE FATHERS: Hawthorne's Psychological Themes. By Frederick C. Crews. New York: Oxford University Press. 1966. \$6.75.

This psychological analysis of Hawthorne's themes attacks the "American Studies approach" to Hawthorne as romancer of colonial American history and the "neo-Christian approach" to Hawthorne as serene moralist. Crews' thesis is that Hawthorne was obsessed with unresolved Oedipal feelings which manifested themselves in literary fantasies of filial hatred, parricide and incest. His Oedipal compulsion explains, as no other approach does, the narrowness of Hawthorne's themes and character types. Full of high intelligence and admirable restraint, this book still suffers from the dangers of critical monism. Reducing the rich complexity of a major artist to the formula of (in this case) Freudian criticism does little justice to Hawthorne's varied artistry.

University of Wisconsin

James W. Tuttleton

THE NEW ENGLAND CONSCIENCE.

By Austin Warren. Ann Arbor: University of Michigan Press. 1966. \$6.00.

Unusually informal, this is a graceful and thoughtful examination of the sense of conscience in William Bradford, John Winthrop, Roger Williams, Michael Wigglesworth, Cotton Mather, Jonathan Edwards, Thoreau, William Lloyd Garrison, Hawthorne, James, Mary E. Wilkins, Henry Adams, Edwin Arlington Robinson and then the heroes of two novels, John Marquand's The Late George Apley and George Santyana's The Last Puritan. A disarmingly casual structure fails to conceal the themes recurring in the figures discussed, nor does the conversational tone hide the scholarly solidity of the author's preparation. Good seminars sometimes produce conversation of this quality. Much of The New England Conscience has the appearance of a carefully edited transcription of the best parts of a series of related discussions, in which the stated subject is always present, but the best insights often come at unexpected angles spontaneously from the reactions of the brightest participants. Since Mr. Warren says that the book grew out of lectures and seminars, this is a bit more than conjecture.

SGL

MILITARY HISTORY

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN ISHERWOOD:
 Naval Engineer. By Edward William
 Sloan, III. Annapolis: U. S. Naval
 Institute. 1965. \$7.50.

DUTY, HONOR, COUNTRY: A History
 of West Point. By Stephen E. Ambrose.
 Baltimore: The Johns Hopkins Univer-
 sity Press. 1966. \$8.00.

Professors Sloan and Ambrose have added two valuable studies to the growing literature on the institutional history of America's armed forces. Written to enlighten the layman rather than to inspire the career officer or titilate the military "buff," these books may be profitably read by all students of American military history.

Sloan's Isherwood examines the career of the Navy's first Chief of the Bureau of Steam Engineering, emphasizing his influence during the Civil War. Isherwood, a skilled engine designer and resourceful bureaucrat, convoyed the Navy out of the Age of Sail, at least while the war was being fought. In a carefully researched and lucidly written book, Sloan recounts the sharp controversies on warship design, steam propulsion and naval strategy that ended only with Isherwood's removal in 1869. The post-war retrenchment that followed set back Isherwood's armored, ocean-going steam cruiser program at least a decade.

Duty, Honor, Country is a distinct improvement on the histories of West Point written by Old Grads. Relying on anecdotes and emphasizing West Point traditionalism, Ambrose has written an interesting and sprightly book. Occasionally, however, he marches his narrative to the point where insight becomes identification with the trials of the Regular Army. The best aspects of the book are the treatment of educational reform under Sylvanus Thayer and Douglas MacArthur and the description of cadet life. The most bothersome feature is the superficial treatment of the Academy since the early 1920's. This flaw Ambrose shares with most other university biographers, who have yet to find a handle for interpreting the educational issues of the last thirty years.

University of Missouri, Columbia Allan R. Millett

GUNBOATS DOWN THE MISSISSIPPI.

By John D. Milligan. Annapolis: U. S. Naval Institute. 1965. \$7.50.

This is a welcome new study of a relatively ignored Civil War weapon. No weapon was more significant in accomplishing one of the grand strategic Union designs -- the opening of the Mississippi -- than the armored river gunboat. Ugly, recalcitrant, poorly built and often mishandled, they were the cutting edge of the sword that struck into the vitals of the Confederacy. They carried tremendous broadsides on hulls that drew as little as 22 inches. The Confederates never found an adequate counter weapon.

The river navy was unique and has deserved more attention from scholars. This book, based on fresh primary sources, is a fine addition to Civil War literature.

Harry S. Truman Library

Milton F. Perry

THE WAR OF 1812. By Harry L. Coles. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press. 1965. \$5.95.

One of the topical volumes in the "Chicago History of American Civilization," this study provides an authoritative summary of the military history of the War of 1812. It does not include coverage of the complicated diplomatic background to the conflict nor an examination of the causes of the war. These problems are, however, considered in the opening chapter, where Coles reviews recent writings and concludes that both maritime grievances and internal factors must be considered in explaining the war, though maritime factors were primary. By providing a review of the military aspects of the conflict, emphasized by Henry Adams but neglected by recent scholars, Coles had added to, not duplicated, the recent concentration of scholarship on the War of 1812.

University of Missouri, Columbia

Noble E. Cunningham, Jr.

FOREIGN POLICY

THE TROUBLED PARTNERSHIP: A Reappraisal of the Atlantic Alliance. By Henry A. Kissinger. New York: McGraw-Hill. 1965. \$5.95.

With understanding and keen perception Mr. Kissinger has analyzed the problems, the hopes, and the aspirations of the Atlantic Community. Declaring that the moves which culminated in the Atlantic Alliance forged the most constructive American foreign policy since the end of World War

today is a reliable ally in the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and American relations with the states which emerged from the Sultan's kingdom are generally satisfactory.

Stephens College

John C. Crighton

BOOKS RECEIVED:

THE ACHIEVEMENT OF SHERWOOD ANDERSON: Essays in Criticism. Edited by Ray Lewis White. Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press. 1966. \$7.50.

DOCUMENTARY HISTORY OF RECONSTRUCTION: Political, Military, Social, Religious, Educational and Industrial. Edited by Walter L. Fleming. New York: McGraw-Hill. 1966. (2 vols., paper) \$2.45 each.

DOCUMENTS OF UPHEAVAL: Selections from William Lloyd Garrison's The Liberator, 1831-1865. Edited by Truman Nelson. New York: Hill and Wang. 1966. \$5.95.

THE NOVELETTE BEFORE 1900. Edited by Ronald Paulson. Englewood Cliffs, N.J.: Prentice-Hall. 1966.