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Book Reviews

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BOOK REVIEWS

Anglo-Spanish Rivalry in North America. By J. Leitch Wright, Jr. Athens (University of Georgia Press), 1971. Pp. xiii, 257. \$10.00.

J. Leitch Wright, Jr. has written a solid, well-researched book that is unfortunately not as broad as his title indicates. He begins his study of Anglo-Spanish rivalry at the start of the sixteenth century and continues through Spain's cession of Florida to the United States in 1819, concentrating on the southeastern United States. He ignores the other flank of English penetration—the Mississippi after 1763—in which Texas was an outpost of the Spanish Empire and Nacogdoches a forward point of that outpost.

The English moved slowly down the coast of Virginia to the Carolinas and finally to Georgia, and Spanish opposition grew in intensity as the English neared St. Augustine, guardian of the route of the treasure fleets. After the late seventeenth century the Spanish in St. Augustine and Apalachee, and the English, based at Charleston with outposts in Georgia, fought a continuous backwoods war through their Indian allies. Each sought to extend its economic hold over the tribes through trade. This struggle was punctuated by inconclusive raids by one group of Europeans upon the strongholds of the other. The English gained all of Florida by treaty in 1763 only to lose it twenty years later as a result of Spanish action during the American Revolution. After that, the existence of the United States complicated the power struggle.

Wright's treatment of the two centuries preceding the War of Jenkins' Ear (1739-1742), known in America as King George's War, seems superficial and it is evident that his principal interest is in the later period. He skims over the obscure but vital clashes of the seventeenth century and relies heavily on secondary sources and published documents, dispatching the first two and one half centuries in eighty-six pages. Wright also reveals his concentration on the late eighteenth century in his conceptual scheme. He divides the topic into two periods—1492-1763 and 1783-1821—with a "confusing twenty-year interval" between. One suspects that the extended early period conceals turning points and changes of policy as significant as those of the late eighteenth century.

Wright displays great familiarity with the literature on the disputed border regions but he lacks understanding of the Spanish Empire as a whole. His concentration on Spanish activity in a fringe area causes him occasionally to underrate the residual strength of Spain in the heartlands of Mexico and Peru. Many competent American historians have made this error, described by Herbert E. Bolton as "mistaking the tail for the dog, and then leaving the dog out of the picture."

This reviewer's principal criticism is directed not at Mr. Wright's knowledge of his subject but at his choice of topics. The story of Anglo-Spanish rivalry in Florida and Georgia has been told several times in the past half-century by Bolton, Verner Crane, John Tate Lanning and others. The author adds little that is new although he blends Spanish and English sources more skillfully than many historians. His most original contribution is his detailed knowledge of the middle ground of Alabama and Mississippi after 1783 where enterprising Englishmen and displaced Loyalists negotiated with Spain, England, and the United States simultaneously and even attempted to establish independent Indian states.

Mr. Wright has written a solid if unexciting history. Historians will deplore and the general reader will applaud the placing of footnotes at the end of the volume rather than at the bottom of the pages.

D. S. Chandler
Stephen F. Austin State University

The Empresario, Don Martin De Leon. By A.B.J. Hammett. Victoria (Victoria Daily News Publishing Co.), 1971. \$6.95.

One of the great and glaring gaps in published Texas History is the sad lack of books about its Empresarios.

To be sure, there is the great one by the late Dr. Eugene C. Barker, of the University of Texas, on Stephen F. Austin, who is so often referred to as "The Father of Texas". This is because he was the first one, the most successful one and cut the trail for many that were to follow.

But for the most part that courageous group of leaders, who had the foresight to see what the wilderness of this Mexican Province could become, and risked their fortunes (and often their lives) to make it happen, is still untold.

A.B.J. Hammett, a Business Leader, Banker and Investor of Victoria, has corrected that lack for the Mexican Empresario, who established and laid out Victoria, that thriving and beautiful South Texas city on the lower reaches of the Guadalupe River, the capitol of Martin De Leon's, "De Leon Colony," that was to be the site of so much significant Texas History.

No one person and his family has suffered more embittering injustice and maltreatment by other Texans than Don Martin De Leon and his children and relatives. Many of his direct descendants still live today in the town he founded, Guadalupe Victoria. They should welcome this book. For at long last, A.B.J. Hammett has written well the sad and tragic story of the mistreatment, robbery and exile of Don Martin De Leon and his family. The sad story of his son Don Fernando and his widow and other members of the family fleeing to Louisiana, for their personal safety. He has written the shameful story of their being robbed of their lands and their cattle, their herds of horses and fine imported European furniture in that ugly and chaotic time of blind bias and prejudice against anyone and anything Mexican by Americans in that period immediately after San Jacinto.

It is a well established historical fact, that the flag that flew over the Alamo when Travis and his men were besieged there, had on it the figures 1824. The meaning being that these Texans (citizens of Mexico) were fighting for the constitution of 1824, and against the tyranny of Santa Anna. How ironic it is that Don Martin De Leon was a close and intimate friend of Guadalupe Victoria, the first President of Mexico under the constitution of 1824. Martin De Leon and his family were on the same side as the Texas heroes that paid the supreme and ultimate sacrifice at the Alamo, yet he and his family, who had contributed so much in that cause were villified and robbed as if they had been the defeated enemy.

A.B.J. Hammett has not been alone in trying to bring a belated justice and attention to the Mexican Nationals that aided the Texas Revolution. General Hobart Huson, the internationally famed lay historian of Refugio in a recent paper read before the South Texas Historical Society at Refugio, brings a late light to the contributions of those Texans he calls "Tejanos" to the Texas Revolution. It is high time it be known.

Mr. Hammett has worked closely from accepted and established local and regional histories of this area. To cite two, Victor Rose's, *History of Victoria*, which is basic and Mrs. Kate O'Connor's much later and most outstanding work, *Presidio La Bahia*, that tells us so very much about the Franciscan and Spanish Missions and Presidio system in this buffer province of Mexico.

But most happily, and the thing that makes the book truly unique, Mr. Hammett has been granted the full confidence of the De Leon family and complete access to all the De Leon papers, photographs, day books, diaries, journals, personal correspondence, etc. This treasure trove of prime material has never been used before in this way. It has enabled him to throw bright lights into areas that have so very long been shadowed. From this wealth of previously untouched material, he is able to reconstruct the daily life and the personalities of these early day pioneers of a frontier Colony. With the co-operation of Patricia De Leon, he has been given the color of verbal tradition, within this proud and closely knit family.

This reviewer, a long time collector and dealer in Texana and Southwestern Americana can state without fear of contradiction, that nothing seems to disappear more rapidly than local and regional history. Nor escalate faster in value once they are gone. The purchase of multiple copies of either the regular or special edition of this book could prove a prime and lucrative investment.

The Publisher has chosen twenty-four well done illustrations to enrich the book and add visual interest. It is printed on the best of heavy book paper and has a top quality binding. A detailed index has been added that provides the reader with a quick ready reference to all proper names, places, subjects, etc.

Joe Petty, Jr.
Victoria, Texas

Missions of Old Texas. By James Wakefield Burke. New York (A. S. Barnes & Company), 1971. Index, illus., maps. P. 179. \$8.50

James Wakefield Burke has compiled descriptions of fifty Texas missions, some still standing, some in ruins, and others that were totally destroyed. The author offers a layman's history of the Franciscan missions and includes a background sketch of St. Francis, broad generalizations concerning Indian culture in Texas, the purpose for establishing missions and presidios, and the methods of constructing the religious compounds.

Burke panegyricizes the Franciscans, the only brotherhood that was willing to undergo the hardships in Texas in order to bring civilization and Christianity to the

fierce Apache, Comanche, and Karankawa Indians. Unfortunately, his accolades exaggerate the lasting impact of the friars on cultural institutions when he states that without the Franciscans the colonizers would not have been able to win Texas independence. In explaining that the padres taught the Indians how to govern themselves in a democratic manner and to respect property rights, the writer denies that any tribal culture existed prior to the coming of the Spaniards. In this traditional and antiquated interpretation, Burke fails to note that the mission system required total submission to paternal guidance, a defect that destroyed Indian self-sufficiency.

In an effort to incorporate all of the popular, romantic Texas legends, the author introduces Dr. James Long who indeed visited one mission, and his formidable wife, Jane, who did not. Nevertheless, the reader is exposed to the story of her adventures on Bolivar peninsula in 1821. The incredible chapter dealing with the fall of the Alamo and the fictionalized dialogue between Jim Bowie and "Bill" Travis at precisely 2:46 on the morning of March 6, 1836, should have been omitted entirely.

The volume is without footnotes and the bibliography offers the standard secondary works. Serious students will be disappointed with the book, but collectors of Texana may appreciate a compendium and travel guide to the missions.

Burke, a former Army Air Corps test pilot, also has served as public relations officer for the staff of the military governor of Germany, General Lucius D. Clay. He has written articles about the Nuremberg trials and the Berlin Wall for popular periodicals.

Margaret L. Henson
South Texas Junior College

Tragic Cavalier: Governor Manuel Salcedo of Texas, 1808-1813. By Felix D. Almaraz, Jr. Austin and London (University of Texas Press), 1971. Bibliography, Index, Pp. xii, 206. \$7.00.

Manuel Maria de Salcedo was governor of Spanish Texas from November, 1808 until his assassination by temporarily successful insurgents in early April, 1813. Through Salcedo, Professor Almaraz has tried to present "a historical account of the Mexican independence movement in Texas as seen from the Spanish point of view." (p. x) Although illustrative of the problems facing a provincial administrator both in peacetime and crisis, this monograph is not altogether satisfactory in developing its theme.

Governor Salcedo (1776-1813), a *peninsular* member of a family involved in bureaucratic and military service, received his appointment as governor in 1807 and took office the following year. The young official's first two years in office were principally devoted to problems of administration present in the neglected frontier province before his arrival. The Hidalgo Revolt that began in central Mexico in September, 1810, however, created fears of insurrection which compounded the anxieties aroused by continuing tension over the Indian menace and illicit foreign immigration into East Texas. In his final three chapters, Almaraz presents the "Impact of the Hidalgo Revolt upon Hispanic Texas," "The Collapse of Salcedo's Rule," and "Hispanic Texas after Salcedo."

Tragic Cavalier provides a clear picture of the difficulties facing Salcedo—slow communications, inadequate financial support, a weak economy, conflicts with his superior, differences with ecclesiastical personnel, maintaining adequate supplies for defense and administration, and the nagging problem of dealing with foreigners in Spanish territory. For his evidence Almaraz has employed the resources available in the United States, relying heavily upon materials in the Bexar Archives at the University of Texas. Surprisingly, he did not utilize archival records in Spain or Mexico.

The position of Texas as a buffer against Anglo-American expansion made it mandatory that Almaraz emphasize frontier tension and conflict and he has shown clearly the defensive character of the province. Unfortunately, he has not provided as detailed or satisfactory an account of the reaction in Texas to the crisis that marked New Spain throughout most of Salcedo's governorship. Although mentioning the Hidalgo Revolt briefly many times, Almaraz has failed to develop the nature of the independence movement in Texas as it emerged as part of the wider upheavals in the empire. Questions of the exportability of the Hidalgo Revolt or the applicability of all or part of its message to Texas go untreated; the revolutionary social implications that contributed to the Revolt's failure receive no discussion as to their relevance in Texas. Although the author considers the collapse of royalism to have been inevitable, he does not show that the population at large or any specific group in it was ready to support a movement for an independent Texas or why it should have. Rather, his book leaves the impression that active indigenous support of independence was minimal during Salcedo's tenure and only the filibusterers pushing west from United States territory made possible the temporary dissolution of Spanish government.

Mark A. Burkholder
University of Missouri—St. Louis

Fayette Robinson. *Mexico and Her Military Chieftains, 1800-1847*. Glorieta, New Mexico (The Rio Grande Press), 1970. Index, illustrations, maps. P. 353. \$12.00.

As the United States and Mexico took the first steps toward open hostilities more than 125 years ago, a young Virginian named Fayette Robinson was recuperating from an unspecified malady by traveling in the southern part of this hemisphere. To help pass the boring hours he began a study of the political turmoil which plagued much of the New World formerly held by Spain. When the approaching war between the United States and Mexico became more evident he abandoned the general study in favor of concentrating on an explanation of the "peculiar policy of Mexico and its men." The result was *Mexico and Her Military Chieftains, 1800-1847*, first published in 1851 and now reissued in 1970 by the Rio Grande Press.

Robinson's book is in no way a general history of Mexico in the first half of the nineteenth century. It is instead an attempt to explain what he described as the unintelligible political convulsions which shook Mexico from 1800 to 1847 and to do so by focusing on the men who led Mexico in these years. It is, therefore, a series of short, often inaccurate, sketches of Mexican leaders, most prominently Agustin de Iturbide, Antonio Lopez de Santa Anna, and Lucas Alaman. With the exception of Iturbide, these individuals are treated with slightly concealed contempt by the young

North American. Mexico's first emperor is described as perhaps the only man who could have governed Mexico and prevented the national degeneration that followed his fall. But due to the ignorance and degradation of the Mexican people, or so the author maintains, Agustín de Iturbide did fall and the result was the rise of opportunists such as Antonio López de Santa Anna. Like most North Americans then and now, Robinson is not quite sure how to deal with Santa Anna. He recognizes and praises his military abilities and his skill in surviving the political storms of the time, but concludes that only Mexico could have produced such an engaging and vital rogue and that Santa Anna alone could have prospered in the volatile atmosphere of early nineteenth century Mexico. The ambivalence which marks the author's observations of the "Hero of Mango Clavo" is certainly not evident in his treatment of Lucán Alaman, one of the most talented and thoughtful men of these years. Robinson finds nothing praiseworthy in the pro-English, anti-United States Alaman. What emerges is the picture of a malevolent schemer who preferred to carry through his machinations in great secrecy. Alaman is accused of everything from being a political assassin, which he probably was not, to the bitterest enemy of the United States in Mexico, which he probably was.

It is surely evident that Robinson was not an unbiased observer of the Mexican scene. He was, after all, a citizen of a country deep in the throes of Manifest Destiny and his writing reflects that condition. There are many blatant examples of his prejudices, none of which requires more than a cursory examination of the book: Miguel Hidalgo acted with "stern, dogged, almost Saxon perseverance"; Acapulco had a population "as industrious as any people with Spanish blood and education can expect to be"; and the author upholds the belief that beautiful countries are given to degraded races until a more worthy people are ready to occupy them, witness the Indians of North America and the people of Spanish descent in Mexico. It is, then, as a part of the literature of Manifest Destiny that Fayette Robinson's *Mexico and Her Military Chieftains, 1800-1847* has real importance. It vividly presents the overbearing righteousness and arrogance of the United States in the 1840's far better than it presents a study of Mexican politics in the same era. This book should be of considerable value to students of United States expansion in the early nineteenth century, and they owe a debt of gratitude to the Rio Grande Press for making this excellently reproduced volume available at this time.

Douglas F. McMillan
Texas A & M University

Big Men Walked Here! The Story of Washington-on-the-Brazos. By Stanley Siegel.
Austin and New York (The Pemberton Press), 1971. Illus. P. 103. \$6.95.

This is a work of several contributors, although Stanley Siegel's name stands alone on the title page. Siegel provided the untitled Part One, covering the era of Anglo-American colonization and Revolution in Texas, weaving in the rise of Washington-on-the-Brazos; and Part Two, describing the oscillations of the Texas Republic's government among various capitals, twice at Washington-on-the-Brazos. Part Three, "Who Were These Men?", by Jim Ethridge, consists of sketches of signers of the Declaration of Independence. There is an unnumbered section of "Illustrations"; and an unnumbered chapter, "The Motivators", by Tom Whitehead, Sr., on efforts to commemorate a site at which the Texas Declaration of Independence was adopted and

the Constitution of 1836 was written.

The book's major strength is Siegel's informed and readable prose. Whitehead's chapter on the serious and repeated past neglect of Washington, with belated but praiseworthy and fruitful efforts to save and commemorate the site, is one with which many readers can empathize, since it is one, with variants, which would apply to many localities, though often without the same fortunate conclusion. The general layout, the artist's sketches (except Houston's), and the section of illustrations combine to produce a pleasing appearance.

In scope the book admittedly goes beyond Washington (p. 58), and becomes an item of Texas lore. This produces problems, notably ethnocentrism. The Mexican state of "Coahuila and Texas" is regularly referred to as "Texas-Coahuila". In pre-1836 Texas, Spanish is referred to as "an alien tongue". Considering that Spanish and various Indian tongues were spoken in Texas a good two centuries and more before English, and in Spanish settlements which significantly ante-dated Anglo ones, this seems a bit much, as does the description of the three Latin American signers of the Texas Declaration of Independence as "Mexican nationals". Surely all of the signers either were, or were not, Mexican nationals.

On the tender topic of the cause(s) of the Revolution, Garrison and Siegel's (in his fine *Political History of the Texas Republic*) "contest of civilizations" thesis is invoked. Fair enough. But under this mantle of seeming impartiality, lists of Anglo grievances are piled up while passing in silence over, or occasionally glossing over, Mexican grievances and/or concessions, such as the Anglo-American lack of good faith in religious matters, and the Mexican waiving the prohibition against slavery for the slaveholding Anglos. The obvious impression is a clash of the forces of light and the forces of darkness.

With regard to Washington-on-the-Brazos itself, the book supplements and in some cases corrects the town's entry in the *Handbook of Texas*. But the book itself seems to be a form of the "boosterism" (p. 43) which Siegel saw in an early town father, for it omits virtually any unfavorable evidence, such as a description by an early traveller quoted by Siegel himself in his *Political History of the Texas Republic* (pp. 31-32). An explanation for this seems provided on the dedication page, where we are told the profits of the book go to improvements of the Washington-on-the-Brazos Park. But the book cannot be deemed to be a contribution to urban history, nor does it seem to do much more than synthesize what is already known about the era prior to annexation.

Moving from substance to form, the few footnote citations are extraordinary. The Pemberton Press appears to lack italics for titles, which appear within quotation marks. Usually part of their data is quoted verbatim without quotation marks, and part is paraphrased, leaving the reader in some puzzlement. A recurring infelicity of style concerns the word Republic, which is rarely used in the appropriate possessive or adjectival form, such as "Republic Congress", "Republic press", and "a Republic form of government".

Good popular history, and good local and regional history, are both needed; and it is a good thing to use a book to keep an historic site in mind. But local and regional history raise questions of orientation and focus. It is worth asking ourselves, as we dust off old court house records and like, whether parochialism serves the

interests either of history or of humanity.

John Osburn
Central State University, Oklahoma

My Eighty Years in Texas. By William Physick Zuber. Edited by Janis Boyle Mayfield. Notes and introduction by Llerena Friend. Austin (University of Texas Press), 1971. Appendices, bibliography, index. Pp. xvii, 285. \$7.50.

At last, after reposing in the Texas State Archives for more than a half century, the significant portions of a manuscript containing the reminiscences of William Physick Zuber, an "Old-time Texian," have been published under the editorship of a grandniece, Janis Boyle Mayfield, with the able assistance of Dr. Llerna Friend, former Director of the Eugene C. Barker Texas History Center at The University of Texas. Dr. Friend has prepared the introduction, footnotes, bibliography, and a historiography of the Moses Rose story. While the Rose story is not a part of Zuber's *My Eighty Years in Texas*, it happens to be the main thing for which Zuber is remembered in Texas history, and, therefore, has been attached as Appendix A and the historiography of the story constitutes Appendix B. The story of Colonel William B. Travis drawing a line across the floor of the Alamo and of his (Rose's) own subsequent escape, allegedly told by Moses Rose in 1836 to Zuber's parents, was published in 1871 by Zuber and certified by his mother at age seventy-eight as "precisely the substance of what Rose stated to my husband and myself." Thus thirty-five years after the incident, and after so much had been written and published on the famous Battle of the Alamo, the story was first made known outside the Zuber family. The story can only be regarded as a product of the author's imagination; but it has become a Texas legend and C. W. Raines in his *Bibliography of Texas*, p. 224, concluded: "Credat Judaeus Apella, non ego."

Born in Georgia on July 6, 1820, William P. Zuber came to Texas with his parents after a sojourn of eight years in Alabama and Louisiana during which interval his father visited Texas in 1827, 1828, and 1829. In June 1830, the Zubers settled temporarily in the District of Aes, now San Augustine County; in 1831 the family settled in Harrisburg; a year later it was living in Brazoria County; and in 1833 they had moved to what is now Grimes County where William P. Zuber lived to 1873, when he settled in Robertson County near Hearne; later, he moved to Bremond, then to Owensville; and, finally, back to Grimes County, near Iola, for twelve years. In 1886 he and Mrs. Zuber sold their farm in Grimes County and lived with the children; and, ultimately, in 1906, after the death of Mrs. Zuber, William P. Zuber moved to Austin when his son-in-law moved to that city. From 1906 to 1913 he was the only surviving veteran of the Texas Revolution during which time he was employed as a guide in the Senate Chamber to point out to visitors pictures of Texas heroes and heroic events.

Two-thirds of the 240 pages of Zuber's recollections is devoted to the author's experiences in the Texas Revolution and in the Civil War, and cover a period of less than four years out of a life-span of seventy-three years. He says that soon after entering military service during the Revolution he commenced a diary in which he narrated "all that had occurred from the sixth of March" until about the time of the battle at San Jacinto when he accidentally spilled all of his ink; "But I preserved what

I had written in it. Moths destroyed that manuscript many years ago, but I had read it so often that the facts became fixed in my memory. I also kept a diary during every subsequent campaign on which I served." (p. 50) As a boy of fifteen years of age he left home against the will of his parents to fight in the Revolution, but found himself detailed to camp guard duty on the day of the battle of San Jacinto; so, in his recollections he produces Colonel Pedro Delgado's report of the battle, and gives the reader a description of the battlefield as it appeared to him (Zuber) when he visited it two days later. Zuber later participated in the campaigns against Vasquez and Woll, but because of illness withdrew from the frontier before the Somervell Expedition got-off to the Rio Grande. At the age of 42 he left his wife and children, against the strong objections of Mrs. Zuber, to participate in the Civil War on behalf of the South, but was never in any major engagement. Only once during his service in the Confederate Army did he shoot to kill, and even then apparently missed his target. He had a horror of killing a fellow man.

For twenty years after 1870 Zuber devoted considerable time to seeking pensions and land grants for Texas veterans, and as the veterans of San Jacinto became fewer in number, he came to be sought out and regarded more and more as an authority on the San Jacinto campaign of '36. After 1870 he wrote voluminously on events in early Texas history and collected data from the "old-timers" for biographical sketches of early Texans. Dr. Friend has included in her excellent bibliography a list of his published and unpublished writings. *My Eighty Years in Texas* provides some useful material and interesting descriptions of life among the early settlers—their hardships, sufferings, sicknesses, shortages, local customs, and the difficulties in educating children. Zuber gives the names of many individuals, including those of soldiers, and relates the experiences of a private in the Confederate Army. One will find here humor, legend, and anecdote. Zuper appears to have been a deeply religious man.

Any person using *My Eighty Years in Texas* must do so with caution, remembering that it was prepared by one after attaining the age of ninety, who used notes, letters, and reminiscent accounts of others, but who for much of what he wrote, relied heavily upon a memory that was becoming hazy and in the telling becoming somewhat on the "windy" side. A prolific writer, Zuber seems to have had a fertile imagination. Erroneous statements in the reminiscences are plentiful, but only a few of these, undetected by the editor, can be mentioned here. The Cherokees did not migrate to Texas in 1839 (p. 106); "Alto Miro" (p. 111, 113) should be "Alta Mira"; Adrian Woll did not capture San Antonio "about September 14" (p. 112), but on September 11; Alexander Somervell did not lead an expedition to a point opposite Mier (p. 115), and he did not return home leaving Major Peter Hansborough Bell in command of the Army on the Rio Grande (p. 115); those who served in the Vasquez Campaign of March 1842, were not paid under a law passed in 1862 (p. 112); J. G. W. Pearson (p. 109) is John Goodloe Warren Pierson; "coal flour" (p. 110, fn. 1) is "cold flour" (sometimes written "cole flour") and was a mixture of coarse corn meal parched brown, to which was usually added a small amount of sugar and was carried by volunteers or militiamen as a substitute for bread since that article could not be carried in sufficient quantity to last more than a day or so. "Cold flour" was eaten dry, or cold, or stirred with water to form a mush.

With this publication The University of Texas Press has added another title to its "Personal Narratives of the West Series," and has maintained the fine quality of craftsmanship for which it is noted.

J. Milton Nance
Texas A & M University

Ten Tall Texans. By Daniel James Kubiak. San Antonio (The Naylor Company), rev. ed. 1970. Pps. xx, 144. Illustrations, index, \$5.95.

The biographical approach to Texas history is becoming fashionable. In *Ten Tall Texans*, the author seeks to promote Americanism and pride of state in young readers by telling them heroic tales of their state's pioneers. His purpose is plainly chauvinistic, and he writes with the inspiration of the truly dedicated. If identical efforts are brought to his public school political offices, he must be a wonderful public servant.

Ten Tall Texans offers some surprises. The expected cameobiographies of Houston, Austin, Milam, Crockett, Bowie, and Travis are, of course, there. But it is here that the secondary theme of the book emerges—the emphasis of the role of Latin Americans in Texas history. The careers of Lorenzo de Zavala, Jose Antonio Navarro, Juan N. Sequin, and (shades of ladies lib) Andrea Castanon Candelaria are thus cited. The book is illustrated in the familiar Naylor style with portrait drawings of the principal characters.

The biographies are successful in their stated purpose. The author makes generous use of myth and legend to underscore his point of Americanism. There are several errors of fact—and the truth is always better than legend—but on the whole *Ten Tall Texans* is a suitable addition to the public school library.

Archie P. McDonald
Stephen F. Austin
State University

The French Legation in Texas. By Nancy Nichols Barker. Austin (The Texas State Historical Association) 1971. Illus. P. 357. \$12.

This book covers a span of four years of French diplomatic activity in Texas. Dealing with the period, 1838-1842, Volume I is aptly entitled, "Recognition, Rupture, and Reconciliation" and a second volume will complete this study. Although, as Professor Barker acknowledges, some of the correspondence printed here first appeared in George P. Garrison (ed.), *Diplomatic Correspondence of the Republic of Texas* and much of the material covered has been dealt with in previous studies by Herbert Edwards and Mary Katherine Chase, still this is a valuable and highly readable book.

Following the United States, France was the first European nation to grant diplomatic recognition to the Republic of Texas. The decision was taken principally upon the advice of Alphonse Dubois de Saligny who was sent to Texas from the French Embassy at Washington to appraise the local situation. Believing that Texas offered a great potential in new markets for French products, particularly wines, and that French influence in the Republic might offset British activities in Mexico City, Saligny pressed for recognition which was granted in September, 1839. A commercial treaty soon followed though efforts to secure a five million dollar loan from French banking sources came to naught.

A contentious man, Saligny involved himself in a number of unseemly personal quarrels which did nothing to enhance the image of his nation in Texas. Stuffy and very much on his dignity, he had a low opinion of his British and American colleagues. Alcee La Branche, the first Charge' d' affaires from the United States, was, "stiff and formal" while Joseph Eve, also sent out from Washington, was described as a "typical Kentucky peasant." James S. Mayfield and David G. Burnet, Secretaries of State with whom Saligny frequently sparred, were portrayed in equally unflattering terms, while President Mirabeau B. Lamar came in for the most unyielding and bitter censure. Because of the French blood which distantly ran in Lamar's veins, Saligny seems to have expected more. On the other hand, he recognized and acknowledged Houston's talent for political leadership.

Wracked by ill health and seeking escape to New Orleans whenever he could, Saligny was nevertheless an astute observer of conditions in Texas. Political questions, such as the location of the permanent seat of government, the possibility of a lasting peace with Mexico, and the renewal of annexation negotiations in 1841, are fully discussed and reported. Internal politics, particularly the 1841 presidential contest between Houston and Burnet, also came under Saligny's close and mocking scrutiny. The rate of immigration, business and trade statistics, even the state of the arts in Texas were duly noted and reported to Saligny's superiors in the Foreign Office at Paris. If the principal task of a diplomat is to observe and report, Saligny performed his commission well.

Professor Barker's book was a delight to read. This reviewer looks forward with much anticipation to the concluding volume.

Stanley E. Siegel
University of Houston

Tall Men with Long Rifles. By James T. DeShields. San Antonio (The Naylor Company), 1971. Illustrations, index. P. 270. \$7.95.

This is a reprint of the 1935 edition of the experiences of Creed Taylor, a veteran of the Texas War for Independence. The volume was prepared by DeShields after Taylor, a few years before his death, dictated his recollections of the events surrounding the Revolution.

Taylor died in 1906. It is unfortunate that DeShields did not relate when the interview took place and if the old veteran was among the last survivors of that memorable conflict. However, DeShields quotes extensively from Taylor giving the work a personal and sometimes touching flavor.

Taylor speaks his mind about personalities and attempts to correct the "errors" that have crept into the pages of Texas history. One must keep in mind that the interview with Taylor took place many years after the Revolution and that his opinions should be taken with interest and not as gospel truth.

To any person interested in the Texas Revolution, this work is helpful and the block drawings of Bob Wilson adds enhancement to the volume.

It is also somewhat disappointing that a photograph of Taylor, perhaps in his later years, could not have been included.

Maury Darst
Galveston College

Reconstruction To Reform: Texas Politics, 1876-1906. By Alwyn Barr. Austin (University of Texas Press), 1971. 315 pp. Bibliography, maps, illustrations, and index. \$8.50.

In this scholarly study Alwyn Barr, associate professor of history at Texas Tech University, has ably described the personalities and issues of Texas politics in the thirty year period following Reconstruction. These were in many ways transitional years as Texas put aside some of the bitternesses and frustrations of Reconstruction and turned to solving the problems of an expanding society.

Professor Barr not only describes political activities on the state level but also attempts to link these with events on the national scene. His discoveries, while far from sensational, provide us with fresh insights into the period. He finds, for example, that the effort to regulate railroads, culminating in the creation of the Texas Railroad Commission during the Hogg administration, was supported not only by agrarian elements as has been traditionally believed but also by many merchants, shippers, and industrialists, and even some railroad men. Similarly, he argues "that the Texas Populists hardly fit the mold of backward-looking reactionaries, with antforeign and anti-Semitic views, holding imaginary ills and offering no useful reforms as they have been pictured by some modern critics." Populist leaders were not exclusively farmers but included lawyers, businessmen, editors, teachers, skilled workers, ministers, and physicians. Surprisingly, only one-fifth had been Greenbackers and even fewer had been Republicans. About one-third of the Populist leaders had attended college.

The Texas Republican party was divided into two major factions: the "radical" wing led by ex-Governor Edmund J. Davis and the "conservative" wing led by A. J. Hamilton until his death in 1875. In the late 1880's the party apparently unified behind the leadership of Norris Wright Cuney, "the leading Negro Republican in Texas and the most powerful figure in the party." Factionalism broke out again in the late 19th century. This, combined with the poll tax, lack of Negro unity, and white opposition to Negro leadership, resulted in giving control of the party in Texas to the "Lily-white" faction in the early 20th century.

Barr argues convincingly that Colonel E. M. House, who emerged as "king-maker" in the state Democratic party at the turn of the century, has been miscast as a moderate progressive "since he supported the more conservative of the Democratic contenders for political offices, personally favored the gold standard, maintained strong business ties, and helped write watered-down Democratic state platforms that frequently avoided substance."

Reconstruction to Reform is a sound work which will serve as the standard political history for the period. The thirty page bibliography accompanying the text demonstrates the author's thorough investigation of primary and secondary sources.

Professor Barr is to be commended for his excellent work. It points to the need for other studies such as this (and Stanley Siegel's *Political History of the Texas Republic*)—especially for the Reconstruction period which precedes it.

Ralph A. Wooster
Lamar University

Larissa. By Fred H. Ford and J. L. Brown. Jacksonville, Texas (Kiely Printing Company), 1971. Illustrations. P. 184.

Larissa, by Dr. Fred Hugo Ford, D. D., of New Orleans, and J. L. Brown of Jacksonville, a collection of stories and facts assembled by the authors about the town of Larissa in Cherokee County and of the college by the same name established there in 1848, was first published by McFarland Publishing Company, of Jacksonville, in February 1951. This collection of stories and authentic records of the college was made at the request of Dr. S. L. Hornbeak, who was the president of Trinity University, Waxahachie, to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the university in 1915. As Dr. Ford relates in the preface, it is far from complete and does not pretend to be a detailed history of Old Larissa, the village, or of the college founded there in 1848.

It is commendable that a facsimile edition of *Larissa* is now available through the efforts of Mr. and Mrs. Frank Wright Ebaugh, of Jacksonville, printed by Kiely Printing Company in 1971. Mrs. Ebaugh is the daughter of J. L. Brown, one of the authors. Mr. Brown was born in Arkansas in 1866 moving to Larissa at age 5 in 1871. His father, W. A. Brown, and half brother, Lon Dixon, founded a business in Jacksonville known as Brown & Dixon. From this beginning J. L. Brown in 1895 went into business for himself founding the J. L. Brown Department Store which continues in Jacksonville.

Mr. Brown and his wife gave the land for Larissa Memorial Park adjacent to Love's Lookout State Park near Jacksonville in memory of the town of Larissa and Larissa College.

Thomas H. McKee, native of North Carolina, emigrated to Texas from middle Tennessee in 1846. His son, the Rev. T. N. McKee, a Presbyterian missionary, founded the town of Larissa naming it for an ancient Greek province. The first teacher in the college was Mrs. S. R. Erwin, educated in Lebanon, Tennessee, daughter of Thomas H. McKee. The school, organized in 1848 in a log house that stood on the outskirts of the village, was under the management of the Trinity Presbytery of The Cumberland Presbyterian Church. In 1855 the college was incorporated and chartered as a college under the direction of the Brazos Synod of the church. The college flourished until its last year, 1860-61, when 144 students were enrolled. The Civil War brought about the end of the college.

In 1866 by action of the Brazos Synod Larissa College was reduced to a private institution, but eventually was moved to Tehuacana Hills in September of 1869 where it continued for 33 years until it was moved to Waxahachie on September 9, 1902. Throughout the years of its history, first at Larissa, then at Tehuacana and at Waxahachie, Trinity University stood for the highest Christian ideals. It had high

scholastic rating being a charter member of the American College Association and one of the five accredited colleges and universities in Texas on the list of the American Council on Education. The author's conclusion regarding the school is that no institution in Texas has rendered a larger service for the state with the expenditure of less money.

The authors compiled through diligent research and personal correspondence records which are of great value to students of history and members of pioneer families in East Texas. There are records of the first Masonic Lodge organized in Larissa in 1852. Many incidents in the lives of early settlers make interesting reading as does the account of the Killough massacre on October 5, 1838 in which 18 white settlers were killed or carried away as captives by the Indians. There is also a story by an early settler relating the Battle of Kickapoo Creek in which Chief Boles of the Cherokee tribe was killed. Mr. Brown wrote to many friends throughout the area asking for their recollections of Larissa and the college and their accounts prove fascinating reading particularly in describing the physical properties of the college, the teachers and the course of study. There is a chapter on the founding of the town of Jacksonville and how it acquired its name.

Gene Lasseter (Mrs. E. H.)
Henderson, Texas

Texas is the Place for Me: The Autobiography of a German Immigrant Youth. By Carl Urbantke. Translated from the German by Ella Urbantke Fischer. Introduction and Index by Robert C. Cotner. Austin (The Pemberton Press), 1970. 109 pages. Illustrations, map, index. \$5.95.

Historians justifiably have evidenced a continued interest in the problems faced by German speaking peoples immigrating into nineteenth-century Texas. The most significant of these studies began with Gilbert G. Benjamin's *The Germans in Texas: A Study of Immigration* (Philadelphia, 1909) and his pioneering attempt to reconcile the contracts of identity and assimilation. Later, Rudolph L. Biessle in *The History of the German Settlements in Texas, 1831-1861* (Austin, 1930) provided an institutional examination of the early German colonies. More recently, Terry G. Jordan's, *German Seed in Texas: Immigrant Farmers in Nineteenth-Century Texas* (Austin, 1966) utilized the quantitative method to analyze the process of agricultural transition. By the nature of their approaches, these books tended to emphasize either the activities of the ethnic group as a whole, or specialized classes within that group.

Important German leaders of the early colonization and revolutionary periods recently have received scholarly attention in Irene M. King's, *John O. Meusebach: German Colonizer in Texas* (Austin, 1967) and through Archie P. McDonald's editing of *Hurrah for Texas - The Diary of Adolphus Sterne, 1838-1851* (Waco, 1969). Yet relatively little has been preserved or published concerning the role of somewhat lesser, and later, Germans involved in the cataclysm of Texas immigration.

Thus the autobiography of Carl Urbantke, recounting the years from 1853 to 1902, helps to fill this void. In a simple, but direct, fashion he tells of the economic and political circumstances compelling immigration from his native Austria and of his

early years in Texas as a railroad construction worker and frontier farmer. Later there came a "call" to the ministry and a vivid account follows of his strenuous years spent as a "circuit rider." Eventually he was to conclude his career as an educator by founding Blinn Memorial College at Brenham.

As a pious and learned man, Urbantke naturally stresses his deep religious convictions. But there is much more in this modest volume of historical interest. His description of the economic problems of frontier farm life with its accompanying social forms is valuable. Further, his comments on the denominational factionalism of post-Civil War Texas churches should prove of particular interest to scholars.

In 1902, a few years after his retirement as president of Blinn College, Urbantke wrote his autobiography in his native tongue - *Aus Meinen Lebensfuehrungen*. After his death in 1912, his daughter, Ella Urbantke Fischer, subsequently translated it into English. Her daughter, Mrs. Laurina F. Matthews, later revised and modernized it into its published form. In addition, an introduction by Professor Robert C. Cotner of the University of Texas at Austin delineates the book's purpose and perspective. An index, map, and several interesting illustrations also contribute to its usefulness.

John O. King
University of Houston

The End of the Cattle Trail. By J. L. Hill. Austin and New York (The Pemberton Press), 1969. Pp. xi & 120. Illustrations, index. \$6.95.

When J. L. Hill's little book, based on his experiences as a drover in the 1880's, was printed in 1923 and re-printed in 1928, it was not a success. This third printing, with a new introduction by Jimmy M. Skaggs, deserves better luck, for Hill's book, in spite of its flaws, is a useful addition to the literature of the cattle industry.

Mr. Skaggs, in his introduction, writes that "probably less than 20 percent [of Hill's material] would stand the acid test of absolute accuracy." This is probably a fair estimate, since Hill was looking back thirty or forty years and sometimes was dealing with subjects he did not really know. Hill was also a man of limited education, and much of his writing was bad and the arrangement of his material was haphazard. Yet when he dealt with things he knew first-hand from his days on the cattle trails in Texas, Kansas, Montana, or the Bad Lands, he was convincing and even his writing improved in style and organization.

Many events and details stand out in the book. Descriptions of the round-up, the cutting horse ("cut horse," to use Hill's term), the handling of a trail herd, the cattlemen's association formed to deal with horse and cattle rustling—all make good reading. This reviewer especially liked the section on the Bad Lands. Hill's description of this fascinating region and the stories of famous men—Theodore Roosevelt, Frederick Remington, and the Marquis de Mores—that he met there. The best story concerns de Mores, a French nobleman who married New York heiress Medora von Hoffman (Hill spells it "Huffman"), built the town of Medor, North Dakota, and used a large chunk of his father-in-law's fortune to build an abattoir in the naive belief that he could compete with the established packing plants in Kansas City and Chicago.

Hill's prejudices were typical of the old-time cowmen. He did not like Indians, sheepmen, or homesteaders, particularly if the latter happened to be Kansas Jayhawkers, who "were worse than the Indians in the Indian Nations." Like another Western writer, Will James, Hill had little use for Englishmen who came out to "the Wild West of the United States of America." And like many Westerners down to the present day, he complained that cattlemen were "entitled to some consideration by the Government."

Mr. Skaggs' introduction is excellent. It contains concise information on the cattle trails, biographical facts on Hill, and a fair-minded appraisal of the book's weaknesses and merits. He has also done considerable historical detective work in order to document the information on Hill. The pictures in the book are well selected, but some are too blurred to be seen clearly, a fault that may go back to the original edition. In any case, the imperfections are part of the book's appeal. It is anything but a slick professional work. It is merely the earnest attempt of an ordinary man, J. L. Hill, to tell what he knew and what he had heard about a colorful chapter in the history of the West.

John Payne
Sam Houston State University

Mills of Yesteryear By A. T. Jackson. El Paso (Texas Western Press), 1971. Illustrations, bibliography. P. 103. \$5.00.

A. T. Jackson's book deals with the construction and operation of water-, animal-, hand-, and wind-powered grist mills in Texas from prehistoric times to the present day. The author has divided his survey of Texas milling into chapters dealing with Indian grinding techniques, Spanish mills, various types of nineteenth-century mills, Mormon milling enterprises, problems faced by pioneer millers, and laws and litigation concerning mills and millers. The book is illustrated with a number of photographs showing mills in operation and the remains of mills, as well as two fine drawings explaining the workings of an undershot wheel and a turbine. Mr. Jackson has done an excellent job of collecting and bringing together information about this little-known Texas industry.

Unfortunately, the information is not well organized. The book never moves beyond a series of descriptions of various mills and stories about millers. No attempt is made to show the development of milling techniques in Texas or to discuss the introduction of new milling machinery and its effects upon the industry. Little is done to relate the mill and miller to the rest of the frontier society. No pattern of technological innovation, development, and obsolescence is shown. Even the simple chronological organization breaks down after the first two chapters and the reader is led back and forth from mill to mill over the better part of two centuries. Indeed, the title of the penultimate chapter, "Fragments of Mill History," might well serve the entire book. The confusion is compounded by the absence of an index.

The book has a second and more serious weakness. The author includes a large amount of undocumented material without distinguishing it as such. Some extreme examples of this fault are the discussion on page six of the alleged remarks uttered by the Indians upon first seeing the mill at San Jose in operation in 1730⁸ and the

discussion on page twenty of William Goyens' encounter with his former master. A good deal of this apparent folklore probably came from the numerous newspaper stories and *Frontier Times* articles cited in the bibliography. The author also obtained much accurate and valuable information from interviews with retired millers, diaries, memoirs, and county histories. Tragically, there are no footnotes to help the reader distinguish the wheat from the chaff.

Mills of Yesteryear is a scrapbook of miller's tales, and, taken as such, will provide a good afternoon's reading. As a serious historical work worthy of publication by a University press, it is seriously flawed by the unprofessional approach by the author. But the subject is so fascinating and so needful of treatment that one cannot fault him too badly. Perhaps we can hope for a revised edition in the future.

Lonn Taylor
University of Texas
Winedale Properties

The Great American Pastime: Notes on Poker, the Game and the Players. By Allen Dowling. Introduction by Oliver P. Carriere. South Brunswick and New York (A. S. Barnes and Company; London: Thomas Yoseloff Ltd.), 1970. P. 239. Illustrations, index. \$5.95.

A book on poker ought to be reviewed by a poker player, and this one is vetted by an old hand who knows the difference between good old draw poker and, for example, "Up in Mabel's Room" with one-eyed jacks wild.

One thing should be settled right away--Texans, no matter what they say, don't play at the great American pastime any better or any worse than do Illinois Suckers or Georgia Clayeaters or devotees raising the ante in some back room in any other section of the Union. And just because a player is a president or a king is no reason to hold that he is a superior player, unless, of course, one concedes that, in their professional life, presidents and kings are more experienced in bluffing than is the average, honest citizen.

Players and non-players will find something of interest somewhere in eighteen chapters whose subjects range from the habits of females at poker tables, through discussions of high and low stakes, river gambling, and commercial games, and on to stories and vignettes of famous persons. Texans may be interested in reading that Harry S. Truman was a "shrewd and cautious" player, that he played with John N. Garner, and that he once is alleged to have said that he enjoyed associating "with the kind of men who play poker." (p. 190-91). Texas oil moguls relished the game. Other national figures equally devoted to poker include, among others, Dwight D. Eisenhower, Douglas MacArthur, Ulysses S. Grant, and Franklin D. Roosevelt.

Several sections of the volume seem particularly revealing. Certainly, Oliver P. Carrier's introduction, a crisp history of the game, should not be overlooked. Carrier's large library of poker sources was leaned upon heavily. The chapter narrating the history of *Poker Chips*, an American periodical devoted to the game and first published in June, 1896, arouses curiosity. What, indeed, was the fate of this journal after it changed its name to *The White Elephant*? It died, but why and when? And who really was its editor, "Frank Tousey"?

Of particular interest to this reviewer is the chapter dealing with poker and the law. In this are paraded, with some editorial comment, court cases involving the game. Packed with human interest, these tiffs at bench and bar offer fascinating insights. It is to be regretted that the author, when writing this section, did not discuss and describe state and local statutes and ordinances upon which cases rested. Yet no author can cover all aspects of every topic.

All in all, this is a pleasant book for casual reading—one that can be picked up and laid down and picked up again. One, particularly if one is sufficiently stirred to investigate further, is disappointed by the lack of citations to sources and a bibliography. A sort of a glossary of poker prose and poetry near the close of the volume says that the expression for a pigeon who likes fast action is "Come to play, not to stay." This rather adequately describes the book itself.

Philip D. Jordan
Burlington, Iowa

Negro Legislators of Texas and Their Descendants. By J. Mason Brewer. Foreword by Alwyn Barr. Introduction by Herbert P. Gambrell. Reprint Austin (Pemberton Press), 1970. Pp. xiv & 154. Index. \$9.50.

This is not the subject matter which one associates with J. Mason Brewer, whose reputation as an outstanding folklorist has been long established. Therefore, one is somewhat reluctant to apply the critical standards of historical scholarship to this volume, the merits of which do not readily appear.

The reader should not ignore Professor Gambrell's introductory statement: "One will find here no special pleading or strained interpretations, but rather an honest appraisal of the role of the Negro legislators by a member of that race." It is neither an Uncle Tom nor a Black Republican who records the problems of the freedmen in attaining access to the ballot box, but his mature observations are sometimes obscured by biographical material on Texas Negro legislators and their descendants.

Negro experience as a voter, as a political candidate, and as a legislator appears to have been as diverse as that of white Texans in the generation following the Civil War. Sectionalism and the possibility of dividing the state influenced the decisions of Negro political figures, and they sometimes differed on other issues. Brewer's legislators do not emerge as dupes to white radicals nor as men deluded by their alleged power. They are pragmatists. "The Negro could not have been successful in getting elected to office and in holding office, if he himself had not been able to trade well."

Hopefully, the most meaningful result of the publication of this reprint will be that it will attract the attention of younger scholars to individual personalities who deserve critical biographical studies. G. T. Ruby, the Galveston senator, was one of the most remarkable young men in Texas during the Reconstruction period. Another powerful Galveston figure, N. W. Cuney, also deserves additional study, while R. L. Smith of Waco and Matt Gaines of Washington County surely merit biographies of article length.

The fourth title in the Negro Heritage Series of the Pemberton Press, this volume is a reprint of a 1935 publication. Additions include a few pages of introductory material by Professors Barr and Gambrell, and the author's brief sketches of four contemporary Texas Negro legislators. It is in a reprint pattern which has become all too familiar to students of Negro history in recent years. Had the interesting material in the original edition been further searched, assimilated, rewritten, and documented more extensively, a definitive study of the subject would have resulted.

Donald E. Everett
Trinity University

The Negro in Texas, 1874-1900. By Lawrence D. Rice. Baton Rouge (Louisiana State University Press), 1971. P. 309. \$10.00.

Scholars seeking to explain the not too distant past of the black community are confronted with liabilities of the first magnitude. Invariably the researcher must base most of his study upon source material from white men's and not black men's records. Back files of most newspapers edited by blacks were lost following their failures. Lawrence D. Rice was able to find only "one copy of two of these papers" which had been published in Texas. Apparently few black Texans wrote diaries, kept ledger books, or engaged in the activities from which collections of personal papers emerge. Given the liabilities confronting him, Rice has produced a quality book.

For the historian his primary contribution involves Texas politics in the late 19th century because more than fifty per cent of *The Negro in Texas* deals directly with the black Texan and politics. Readers of these pages on politics should emerge with an understanding of both the black's role in Texas politics and the forces which brought about the effective removal of Afro-Texans from the political process. Among the chapters on politics are the following: Constitution Making, The Black Man's Party, Fusionism: The Unholy Alliance, Black Populism, Black Belt Politics, and The Cost of Freedom: Disfranchisement. Yet the chapters on politics leave the reader with the haunting feeling that he is not receiving a total picture of the black Texan. Black leaders are evident, but as is all too frequently true, the mental image of "the people" remains a blur.

In the non-political realm, *The Negro in Texas* contains chapters on black farmers, wage earners, criminals and those accused of criminal activity, education, and life in the black community. As compared to the chapters on politics, those dealing with other aspects of life are not as sound, undoubtedly a result of inadequate source material. In an *absolute* sense the weakest chapter in the study was entitled Negro Life. If one contrasts Rice's chapter with its counterpart in a work such as Vernon Wharton's *The Negro in Mississippi*, however, Rice's is superior.

In reading *The Negro in Texas* one is impressed with the research and utilization of available materials by the author. The writing style is pleasant and the book provides enjoyable reading. Charts and tables would have enhanced the study. The professional historian will discover a quantity of information valuable to a better understanding of Texas and the South. Laymen from the white community will find the study of a useful tool if they seek a fuller realization of what and why their

ancestors engaged in certain behavioral patterns. For the Afro-Texan a more factual knowledge of his people's struggle can be gained from *The Negro in Texas*.

William J. Brophy
Stephen F. Austin State University

Maury Maverick: A Political Biography. By Richard B. Henderson. Austin (University of Texas Press), 1970. Illustrations, bibliography, index. Pp. xxiii, 386. \$8.50.

Twentieth century Texas politicians have often been predictable, cautious, conservative, and at times even boring. Maury Maverick was a notable exception. A member of a pioneer Texas family and native of San Antonio, Maverick followed an active political career which spanned approximately three decades, from the Depression to the early years of the Cold War. These were not years when policies identified with the liberal left were likely to yield success at the Texas polls, but the tempestuous, outspoken, sometimes inconsistent, and often profane Maury Maverick militantly took up the banner of most of the liberal causes of his day. Thus he became the central figure in Texas liberalism of the thirties and forties.

Depending primarily on the Maury Maverick papers in the University of Texas Archives (supported by newspapers, interviews, government documents, and a host of secondary sources), Professor Henderson has described Maverick's career in some detail. After a stint as an unorthodox student, Maverick was admitted to the bar a few months before sailing to France to serve in the trenches of World War I. Returning to San Antonio, he practiced law through the twenties and entered city politics near the end of the decade. In the thirties he served two terms in Congress, and after defeat in a bid for a third term, won a race for Mayor of San Antonio. At the conclusion of World War II, which he spent directing the Smaller War Plants Corporation, he returned to private life but retained an active interest in public affairs.

Throughout these years Maury Maverick carried on a program of progressive insurgency centered around a concern for civil liberties and sympathy for the unfortunate. He joined and served as an attorney for the American Civil Liberties Union, an organization none too popular with many Texans of the day. He fought corporate monopoly and sponsored an early prototype of urban renewal. Although a pacifist in the thirties, he supported the country's involvement in World War II as a necessary defense of human liberty. A defender of the New Deal, Maverick differed from most Texas politicians in that he ranged somewhere to the left of Roosevelt. Never a "me too" man, he was sometimes at odds with the President. His articulate, forthright, and aggressive defense of unpopular causes brought criticism from the right and defeat at the polls, but neither seemed to deter the independent Texan.

Describing what Maverick did is a task infinitely easier than explaining why Maury Maverick was Maury Maverick. Professor Henderson suggests that a family environment of independent thought and action was the beginning. The horrors of World War I aroused compassion and humanitarianism, and a lifetime of reading and study and intellectual associations eroded the bindings of provincialism.

The author leaves some questions unresolved. Maverick's influence on and relationship with Roosevelt is never quite nailed down. Texas readers in particular would have been interested in a fuller explanation of Maverick's role in state Democratic politics; more analysis of San Antonio politics with its maze of ethnic groups would be helpful, particularly in view of today's preoccupation with ethnic history.

Perhaps a more extensive search of manuscript sources would have been of value. Many of the papers of Texas New Deal personalities are worthless assortments of trivia, but surely not all of them, and Maverick had associations with many other national figures.

In any event, Professor Henderson has produced a sound book. He writes clearly, organizes competently, and the editing is well done.

Adrian N. Anderson
Lamar State University

The Dallas Cowboys and the NFL. By Donald Chipman, Randolph Campbell, and Robert Calvert. Norman, Oklahoma (University of Oklahoma Press), 1970. Pp. 252. Illustrations, statistical appendix, index. \$6.95.

The Dallas Cowboys have been the subject of several books, but none as scholarly and well researched as this one. Most books concerning professional football focus upon the action on the field, along with the personalities of players and coaches. This book digs below the surface and examines the complex business and financial dealings that are involved in organizing and managing a professional football team and operating a league.

This book represents both a business history of the Dallas Cowboy football club and an analysis of the growth and development of the National Football League itself. The struggle between the American Football League and the National Football League is covered, with a central focus upon the battle between the Dallas Texans and the Dallas Cowboys. The Cowboys' role in this rivalry and their key part in bringing about the merger of the two leagues is discussed in detail. The importance of television in the success of professional football is traced, and such technical matters as the draft, the moves, injured reserve list, taxi squad, waivers, sharing of TV revenues, blackouts, etc. are discussed.

The history of professional football in Dallas really started in 1952 when the old New York Yankees club became the Dallas Texans. The Texans folded before the season was over and eventually ended up in Baltimore. Clint Murchison, Jr., after attempting to buy the Texans, became determined to bring professional football back to Dallas. He began pressuring the NFL for expansion but the league fathers, finally enjoying a measure of prosperity, were reluctant to slice the pie too thinly. Eventually they gave in and Dallas was awarded a franchise. Lamar Hunt, another Dallasite, had also tried to obtain a franchise without success, and finally formed a new league to rival the NFL.

In building the Cowboy organization, Murchison's philosophy was to hire good

men and turn them loose to do their jobs. Tex Schramm was hired to be president and general manager, Tom Landry was picked as coach, and Gil Brandt was chosen to be chief scout and director of player personnel. Each was to have autonomy within his own province and they were assured of non-interference by Murchison. These men then developed a strategy for building a winner. A step by step analysis of their efforts is presented.

The authors discuss what they consider to be the key elements in the success of the Cowboy team. Among them are leadership, outstanding success in the college draft and the signing of free agents, management ability, initiative, and innovation. The financial growth of the team and the league is analyzed, and the impact of the team upon the Dallas community is discussed. One of the major impacts has been that of race relations, and Cowboy players have been in the forefront of the battle for racial equality and justice.

The book does not exclude the action on the field, and does an admirable job of explaining the multiple offense and the coordinated defense utilized by the Cowboys. It also digs into Tom Landry's personality and philosophy along with that of other key personnel. According to the authors, Landry believes in building a team through the draft rather than through trades, prefers finesse to brute force, likes to pick the best athlete available in the draft rather than fill a certain position, and remains analytical and professional in his approach rather than emotional.

Since the book was finished early in 1970, too soon to enjoy the NFL championships in the two following seasons and the Super Bowl win of January 16, 1972, the final part of the book is concerned with praise and criticism of the Cowboy system and why, according to critics, the Cowboys seemed unable to win the big one.

The book is a must for any loyal Cowboy follower—or for that matter, any student of professional football. The appendix is extremely valuable and includes a considerable volume of vital statistics on the Cowboys from 1960-69.

The future of the Dallas Cowboy organization and team is contemplated in the last chapter. For loyal Cowboy followers with high expectations, the last chapter is appropriately titled, "The 1970's: Decade of the Cowboys".

Charles W. Brown
Stephen F. Austin State University
