Book Reviews

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**BOOK REVIEWS**


Lufkin Foundry and Machine Company changed its corporate identity to Lufkin Industries in 1970, but to generations of Lufkinites it will remain simply “the foundry.”

Since its founding as a sawmill repair shop in 1902, the history of “the foundry” has been inexorably intertwined with that of Lufkin, providing much of the capital, leadership and impetus for the city’s business and community progress.

It was no accident that the company’s corporate history was published in 1982; while Lufkin celebrates its centennial, Lufkin Industries simultaneously marks 80 years of existence.

Most business histories tend to be mundane and tilted somewhat to the corporation’s machinations, but “_Lufkin: From Sawdust to Oil_” is delightfully lacking in that respect. Its appeal lies largely in the warm personal stories that flow through the corporate history like yellow jasamine threading its way through a pine plantation.

For example, there’s the story of the foundry’s traditional badger hunts, which began in the early 1940s when newly-hired employees would be baited into preparing for the unleashing of an angry badger from a box, only to discover that he was dealing with a chamber pot and a handful of scrap metal.

Community historians who thought they knew everything about the foundry’s history will find appetizing morsels of information that do much to humanize the company’s corporate growth. Many of the stories poke gentle fun at three generations of the Trout family which, more than any other family, shaped the company’s direction. It is rare that a corporate history will treat the family founders with anything more than unabashed respect and wonderment, but as a result of Elaine Jackson’s artful storytelling the Trouts come across as a family genuinely concerned with the company’s employees, shareholders and community.

The book is attractively illustrated with hundreds of black-and-white and color photographs, many of which have never been published in Lufkin.

“_Lufkin: From Sawdust to Oil_” is prescribed reading for anyone interested in Lufkin, oil, the forest products industry or East Texas business histories.

Bob Bowman
Tyler, Texas

In this study, William G. Robbins has presented a revisionist interpretation of the politics and economics of the American lumber industry during the half-century before World War II. The book is the latest in the Environmental History Series of the Texas A&M University Press with Martin V. Melosi as general editor. The volume is well-edited, adequately illustrated, and attractively printed.

In succinct fashion, Robbins described and analyzed the development of the lumber industry beginning with the bonanza era in the late nineteenth century which he described as the "Great Barbecue" (16). Successively he traced the economic problems and political responses which led to the Forest Management Act of 1897, the developing conservation movement, and the upgrading and expansion of the U.S. Forest Service. The same years saw the rise of industry-led trade associations, such as the West Coast Lumbermen's Association (WCLA), the Western Pine Association (WPA), the National Lumber Manufacturers Association (NLMA), and the Southern Pine Association (SPA). The officials of these organizations often spoke for the industry and had an important influence on legislation, both state and federal. World War I brought a flurry of prosperity to the lumber industry but the boom ended with the sharp recession of 1921 and the industry returned to a period of unstable prices, over-production, and threats of anti-trust prosecution.

The Great Depression of 1930 plunged the lumber industry into complete collapse. Some owners desperately dumped their lumber on the market at any price and many closed their mills permanently. Seeking a way out of the chaos, President Franklin D. Roosevelt established the National Recovery Administration which directed the drafting of codes of fair practices for all major industries, including the lumber industry. This section on the rise and fall of the NRA lumber code, described by Robbins as "The Great Experiment in Self-Government," was especially well-developed, having appeared earlier as an article in the Journal of Forest History (July, 1981). The study concludes with the coming of World War II and the mobilization of American business, including the lumber manufacturers, for the global war effort.

In his research Robbins has leaned heavily on the papers of West Coast lumber spokesmen, especially Wilson Compton (NLMA) and David T. Mason (WPA). In dealing with the South and Lake States he has relied largely on secondary materials, which has resulted in a partial imbalance in the presentation of the national picture. Writing
from the position of the "New Left" Robbins strongly criticized both the traditional lumber leaders of the bonanza era and also the progressive reformers, both professional foresters and conservation-minded industrialists who sought to stabilize and modernize the industry, and to persuade Congress to regulate the long range policies of the forest products industry.

This is a well-written, informative, and provocative book. If read critically, it provides an important addition to the literature of the economics and politics of a major industry in the United States.

Robert S. Maxwell
Nacogdoches, Texas


As a member of the Dallas Morning News' Austin Bureau from 1942 until 1978, and its chief for fourteen years before his retirement, Richard Morehead knew personally every governor from Miriam (Ma) Ferguson to Bill Clements. The stated purpose of his book is to examine this fifty year period (1933-1982), to analyze the vast political changes that took place during this period, and to "improve our understanding of politics and government during this fifty years."

Written in typical journalistic style, this most readable volume is based not only on the first hand observations of the author, starting in the 1920s as a journalism student at the University of Texas, but also leans heavily on news articles of the period and on the author's original columns. The main focus of the book is on the interlocking relationship between Texas and national politics—and the impact each had on the other.

While Mr. Morehead accurately and fairly captures the essence of the period, his praise for the men who served the state as chief executives during this period seems at times overdone. Evaluations include such statements as:

Buford Jester: "Perhaps the most effective governor Texas ever had."

Allan Shivers: "He may have been the best governor of his time."

John Connally: "None within my memory has been such a strong leader in proposing programs for state government and seeing them adopted."

Preston Smith: "The most conscientious governor . . ."
Bill Clements: "A quick learner . . . a skilled salesman. A man who surrounded himself with able people in the capitol."

These comments are illustrative of the generally favorable treatment the author gives the political figures under consideration. Those who hope to find an analysis of both the strengths and the weaknesses of the men who shaped Texas politics during this period will not find it here.

This volume is recommended for those thoroughly familiar with recent Texas history. The general reader would probably prefer a more integrated narrative account of the period. The author deliberately avoids a simple chronological accounting of events for a method that weaves numerous related events into a description of the administration under consideration. For example, while discussing the W. Lee O'Daniel administration he introduces the topic of "disenchantment with the New Deal" and then devotes some eight pages to a lengthy discussion of the liberal-conservative conflict in Texas from the 1930s down to the 1980s. To the knowledgeable reader the discussion is not only pertinent but of value; to the layman such a digression from the topic at hand may create some confusion.

While this book lacks a philosophical or analytical framework for an understanding of Texas politics and does not attempt to draw conclusions or make evaluations, it gives considerable insight into the state's recent political history and should be a worthy addition to both public and private libraries.

J. David Cox
Stephen F. Austin State University

Journey to Pleasant Hill: The Civil War Letters of Captain Elijah P. Petty's Walker's Texas Division, CSA. Edited by Norman D. Brown. (Institute of Texan Cultures, P.O. Box 1226, San Antonio, TX 78294), 1982. Illustrations, index. p. 471. Hardbound $35.00, leatherbound, 2 volumes $75.00.

Rare is the Confederate diary or letter collection written in a polished, literary style that reveals both military advisor and domestic interlocutor to the contemporary reader. Selected readings from Bell Wiley's The Life of Johnny Reb is one such volume; Journey to Pleasant Hill may also be recommended in the same breath.

Elijah Parsons Petty, born in Dover, Stewart County, Tennessee, practiced law in the Stewart County circuit courts and in 1851 emigrated to Bastrop, Texas with his family, was the author of several Civil War letters to his wife Margaret and daughter Ella and younger children. O. Scott Petty inherited the Petty letters from his grandfather, and he
permitted editor Norman Brown, associate professor of history at the University of Texas, to publish Captain Petty's Civil War correspondence.

*Journey to Pleasant Hill* is a conspicuous literary event because the Bastrop native reveals himself in his letters as Captain of F Company, the Seventeenth Texas Infantry Regiment, reflecting on the tedium of camp life or the incessant forced marches through Arkansas and Louisiana as an officer in "Walker's Greyhounds," and, as domestic counselor, advising his wife on the perils of home management and his daughter on the finer points of etiquette. A strict disciplinarian, Captain Petty's November 30, 1863 camp sketch recounts the punishment for hog stealing:

I saw another new sight today. Some men were caught stealing a hog. Gen. Scurry had a hog skinned and fitted upon them so that the skin of the head made a cap, the snout making the vizer or brim, the ears sticking up naturally, the forelegs clasping across the breast and the balance forming a cloak and thus dressed they were marched back and forth before the amusement of all and the mortification of themselves. (p. 186)

Deserters and Yankees earned the scorn of the Confederate Judge Advocate. Writing to his wife Margaret on the eve of the two month anniversary of Vicksburg's surrender, Captain Petty, excoriating those who would disfigure "our Southern Society with the slime of deserters and traitors" (p. 134) remarks,

There is great dissatisfaction in the army here. Men are insubordinate and between us I would not be surprised if this army was comparatively broken up. Men say they will go home and let the Confederacy & War go to hell etc. I hate to hear men speak of selling their honor & Country for selfishness in other words for a mess of pottage. (pp. 251-52)

Hopeful of the opportunity to give the Yankees "a warm reception," Captain Petty cheerfully addresses his wife from Pine Bluff, Arkansas in January of 1863, saying, "We will receive them with bloody hands to hospitable graves." (p. 127)

An ardent secessionist who "Spoke, electioneered, and voted for it [secession]" and who "helped to carry Texas triumphantly out of the accursed old Union (pp. 299-300), the Pettly letters yet witness to a compassionate and loving father and parent, depicting a Southern class consciousness which editor Brown aptly describes as "the cultural and social history of the Old South's educated middle class." (preface, xiii) A wise Polonius, Captain Petty reminds his wife in March of 1862 at the outset of his military career as a first lieutenant in Kirby's Third Texas Infantry Battalion's defense of Galveston, "If you can get any gold or silver save and save it good and hold on to it like death to a sick cargo." (p. 43)
Cognizant of the ever-depreciating worth of the Confederacy's treasury, the Milliken Bend veteran urges his wife to "Invest your money in something, milk, cows and horses and land, buy corn and fodder it to keep them up—they will all perhaps pay better than Confederate money..." (p. 224)

To his daughter Ella the letters reveal a tenderness tinged with paternal advice on every subject from keeping clean underclothes or wrangling over a piano to maintaining good breeding. Cautioning her in a letter from Tensas Bayou, Louisiana in May, 1863, daughter Ella is instructed:

My present parting advice to you is to be the same good sweet girl that you have ever been. To be kind & affectionate to your mother & your brothers. To be respectful to age, dignified & courteous to your equals and kind & accommodating to the young and polite to everybody. Keep a loof from the vicious & lowbred. Don't do any thing without asking your Ma's advice and particularly don't correspond with any body without asking your Ma's advice & let her see the letters. Don't write to any gentleman or boy at all until you finish your education and then only by consent of your parents. On this last point be extremely careful. (p. 229)

This reviewer chuckled over Captain Petty's many injunctions to his fourteen year old daughter, recalling with delight that Margaret Pinner rode off with her twenty-one year old future husband, Elijah, and was married at age seventeen. The father's admonishments to his daughter, the Civil War notwithstanding, have a uniquely contemporary appeal.

Captain Petty and Walker's Texas Division—the largest unit of Texans in the war—saw action in four hard-fought battles: Milliken's Bend, Mansfield, Pleasant Hill, Louisiana, and Jenkins Ferry, Arkansas. Though seriously wounded at the Battle of Milliken's Bend on 7 June 1863 and sent home to recuperate, Captain Petty returned to the "Greyhounds," and on 3 April 1864, while leading Company F into battle at Pleasant Hill, he was mortally wounded. A fitting tribute, the only monument on the battlefield rests on Petty's grave.

Although the correspondence slights any graphic battle descriptions (and necessarily so because of the strategic nature of Walker's Division in the Trans-Mississippi Department), both historian and litterateur may welcome the wealth of military sagacity and homespun mother-wit that abounds in Journey to Pleasant Hill. The Petty letters, editor Brown's copious chapter notes describing the minutae of characters and events, and the splendid illustrations by John Groth comprise a remarkable historical addition. It belongs on the Civil War shelf next to Wiley and Freeman.

Robert C. Davis
Richland College

Mary Boykin Chestnut, a Southern lady and devoted Confederate, kept a diary during the Civil War. As a member of South Carolina's planter aristocracy and the wife of James Chestnut, Jr., a high-ranking Confederate official, she knew most people of importance in the government and viewed the war and the South's institutions from a unique perspective.

Although she was loyal to the Southern cause, she hated slavery with a passion and called the institution "...a monstrous system of wrong and iniquity. (p. 29)" But she shared the prejudices of others of her day, referring on one occasion to a neighbor's slave as a "black ape."

Mary Chestnut's diary has never been published in its original form. She extensively revised her writings in 1875 and again during the early 1880s, with the intention of publishing them. Portions of the 1880s version were published in 1905 as A Diary from Dixie, edited by Isabella D. Martin and Myrtle Lockett Avary, and an expanded version in 1949, edited by Ben Ames Williams.

Mary Chestnut's Civil War is a virtually complete text of the 1880s journal. In addition, the editor of the present volume, C. Vann Woodward, has placed significant passages from the original 1860s journal in the text and has included notes identifying notes identifying notes identifying individuals. There is a fifty-page index.

Woodward's use of the latter version rather than the original manuscripts has been criticized by many scholars. Woodward defends this decision on the grounds that the final version is closer to what the author intended to publish. He includes excerpts from the original 1860s diary "... to complement and supplement the 1880s version ..." and to provide "... sample tests of the author's integrity. (p. xxvii)"

While critics might argue the point, Woodward maintains that the real significance of Chestnut's work "... lies in the life and the reality with which it endows people and events ..." It should not, he argues, be valued only "... for the information it contains. (p. xxvii)"

Mary Chestnut's Civil War, because of the many revisions, should not be seen as a literal record of events, but as a memoir. Taken in that context, it is one of the most remarkable works to come out of the Civil War.

Mike Roberts
Houston, Texas

People from all over the world chose to settle in Texas in the mid-nineteenth century for various reasons. Not long after their arrival, they found themselves caught up in the American Civil War.

Among the many immigrants to settle in the German colony in New Braunfels, Texas, was the Ernst Coreth family, from Tyrol, Austria. Coming under the auspices of the Society for the Protection of German Immigrants in Texas, Ernst Coreth, his wife Agnes, and their five young children arrived in New Braunfels in 1846.

Born a nobleman in Austria, Ernst Coreth, Graf (Count) von Coreth zu Coredo, dropped all trappings of nobility in his new domicile, save for the family coat of arms. The family crest was that of a black double eagle with each crowned head inside a golden circle; hence the title of the book: Lone Star and Double Eagle.

As the subtitle indicates, this book tells about the experiences of an immigrant family of Texas during the Civil War. The aging father Ernst, his wife, and the younger children stayed on the family farm at New Braunfels. Three older sons, Carl, Rudolph, and Franz, served the Confederate cause. A regular stream of correspondence was carried on between the father and the sons, especially Rudolph.

Many of the letters, written in German, have been preserved by family members for over a century. Then descendant Minetta Altgelt Goyne took the arduous but pleasant task of translating, editing, and publishing the letters. Her annotations, both in the body of the book and in the notes, give interesting and valuable sidelights to the letters.

Father Ernst wrote of conditions on the homefront. Sons Rudolph and Carl wrote about their experiences and thoughts in the field, all the way from Brownsville, Texas, to Mansfield, Louisiana. There are also a few letters by other members of the family and by friends.

Author Minetta Altgelt Goyne is to be commended for this interesting and valuable contribution to the body of knowledge relating to Texas and the Civil War.

Robert H. Thonhoff
Fashing, Texas


Bruce Catton's interest in the Civil War came initially from seeing aging veterans in his boyhood Michigan home. "Those terrible names
out of the history books—Gettysburg, Shiloh, Stone’s River, Cold Harbor—came alive through these men,” he wrote in *Waiting for the Morning Train* (1972). “They had been there . . . and now they stood by the G.A.R. monument in the cemetery and listened to the orations and the prayers and the patriotic songs, and to watch them was to be deeply moved.” Catton himself was over fifty when he won national acclaim for his dramatic trilogy on the Union Army of the Potomac, the last volume of which, *A Stillness at Appomattox* (1954), received the Pulitzer Prize and the National Book Award. He had a talent for seizing upon the small but significant detail that illuminated an entire scene, but he also saw the war whole.

This volume, compiled from tapes Catton made for educational distribution, is, in John Leekley’s words, “a summation of the Civil War themes with which Bruce Catton was most concerned . . . It is as close as we could come to having a conversation with Bruce Catton” (p. xi).

To Catton, the war, for all its loss of life, was worthwhile, because it preserved the Union and committed the country to a broader freedom and citizenship. Even the defeated South found consolation as it lovingly built the legend of the Lost Cause. “There was no hint in this legend of biding one’s time and waiting for a moment when there could be revenge,” he noted. “In that sense, I think the legend of the lost cause has served the entire country very well” (pp. 227-228).

E. B. Long once asked Catton how he knew some detail of the war. “I don’t know,” he answered thoughtfully, “maybe I was there” (p. xxiii). Catton died in 1978. Fittingly, he was buried, with Civil War veterans, in the country cemetery near where he was born.

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If any general reader wants a good account of what happened to Robert E. Lee after the Civil War, Charles Braceland Flood’s book is the one. The author supplemented his use of secondary sources with a variety of letters, papers, and memoirs. Flood’s work is superior to Marshall Fishwick’s *Lee After the War* (1963) and a worthy rival to some chapters in volume four of D. S. Freeman’s classic *R. E. Lee* (1935).

Flood’s strongest suit is his ability to paint vivid word-pictures. The author takes readers along with Lee on old canal boat rides, gives excellent insight into the subdued existence Lee made for himself as
president of Washington College, and recreates the fabric of upper-class southern family life after Appomattox.

Flood has three main points to make about Lee. First, and perhaps foremost, the general was a figure of reconciliation between North and South. The author cites numerous examples when Lee advised southerners to reconfirm their loyalty to the Union. Second, Lee comes across as an excellent college administrator. Lee rejuvenated Washington College (later renamed Washington and Lee in his honor) by coaxing donations from such worthies as Cyrus McCormick, George Peabody, and W. W. Corcoran, and by establishing new courses in business, journalism, and foreign languages. And third, Flood is persuasive on the point that from 1865 until his death in 1870 Lee grew in heroic stature. The way southerners received Lee on his triumphal tour in 1870 indicated that he was already accorded a special place in the pantheon of Confederate leaders. Thus Flood's post-war portrait of Lee is in contrast with that of Thomas L. Connelly's stimulating and provocative *Marble Man: Robert E. Lee and His Image in American History* (1977).

Flood's book is not without faults. The author has the disturbing habit of taking a Dunning school approach, passing over much of the scholarly work done on Reconstruction during the past twenty-five years. And Tennessee was considered fully reconstructed after being the only southern state to ratify the proposed 14th Amendment in 1866, not because of "special circumstances near the end of the war" (p. 148).

These criticisms aside, students of Lee and the Civil War era will enjoy reading Flood's well written narrative of Lee's final years.

Joseph G. Dawson III
Texas A&M University at Galveston


This publication is a pictorial history of an important military installation that was established in the mid-nineteenth century at El Paso. Sixteen chapters present the historical evolution of Fort Bliss from a remotely located frontier garrison to a contemporary training institution for modern weapons. Each chapter has a similar format or pattern including a written narrative and numerous photographs; however, some chapters also contain drawings and maps that guide the reader through the various stages of Fort Bliss' development.

The introductory chapters express the Spanish-Mexican heritage of the Pass of the North and the advent of Anglo American control after the war between the United States and Mexico. In 1849, the United States established a military post north of the new international boundary across the Rio Grande from Paso del Norte (Juarez), Mexico.
Major Jefferson Van Horne named the installation “The Post Opposite El Paso,” which was located on leased land on what is today a part of downtown El Paso, Texas. Two years later the post was abandoned, and it was not until 1854 that a military fort was once again founded at El Paso. This garrison was named Fort Bliss in honor of Colonel William Wallace Smith Bliss, who had served with valor in the army during and after the Mexican War.

Between 1849 and 1880 the geographic location of this military fort changed five times. During these years the purpose of the garrison was to provide security against the raiding parties of Comanches and Apaches. In addition, the troops at Fort Bliss defended the international boundary and protected local residents or travelers who might be using the various desert trails or roads that converged from all points of the compass at the Pass of the North. For a brief period Fort Bliss also served to house Confederate troops and then Union soldiers. The photographs from the collection of Millard McKinney supply vivid pictures to aid the reader in following the narrative of these early years. By the late 1880s it appeared El Paso would lose Fort Bliss, but community minded citizens rallied to convince military authorities the fort could be relocated and remain a valuable asset. In 1893, the first buildings had been completed on what was to become the lasting location of the garrison on Lanoria Mesa, which at that time was a few miles northeast of El Paso. From these some twelve hundred acres, Fort Bliss had expanded to include more than one million acres by mid-twentieth century.

Fort Bliss attracted national attention after 1910 and the outbreak of the Mexican Revolution. One is treated to a barrage of photographs respecting this era. Some readers will relish the abundance of these unique photographs devoted to the troubles with Mexico and the World War I period. In treating the role of Fort Bliss since World War I, the main themes include the various commands that have served at the fort and the army’s transitions from the cavalry to armored units and then to antiaircraft by World War II. Interwoven are chapters devoted to the Border Air Patrol, Biggs Field, William Beaumont Medical Center and a concluding glimpse of the modern role of Fort Bliss for the past generation as the United States Army Air Defense Center.

Much credit for the excellent appearance of this publication should be given to Frank Mangan who designed the book. The arrangement of photographs, maps and drawings is not a collage of undefined meaning. The format has been cautiously and carefully arranged for maximum appeal. One cannot avoid admiring the photographs of Millard McKinney and the drawings of Jose Cisneros, Frederick Carter, Tom Lea and Antonio Castro.

J. Morgan Broaddus
University of Texas at El Paso
Early histories of the cattle industry romanticized the role played by cowboys, rustlers, Indians, and cattle barons. Rare indeed was the book that ignored the round-up, cattle drive, stampede, devastation wrought by blizzards and droughts, or range wars between cattlemen and sheepmen. Writers depended heavily upon secondary sources and reminiscences by old-time cowboys and ranchers for materials. While generally interesting reading, the resulting narratives had a sameness about them. Moreover, they did not always conform to reality in that the men generally were depicted as rugged individuals who invariably possessed an abundance of wisdom, foresight, and honesty and who closed million dollar deals with only a handshake.

Modern ranch histories, particularly those relating to specific cattle companies, emphasize economic aspects over social ones and rely more on written records. They are apt to be realistic, statistical, and heavily documented and scholarly. They also tend to make dull reading for all but the ranching enthusiast. The present volume, originally published in 1964, is no exception, even though it is well written, thoroughly researched, and based almost exclusively upon primary sources. In addition, it provides an important link in the chain of serious histories of cattle empires such as the King and Taft ranches of South Texas and the once fabulous XIT in the Texas Panhandle.

By 1880 enormous profits were being made in the range cattle industry, a development which did not go unnoticed by practical British investors. The Scots, a people noted for their conservative business habits, particularly invested heavily if not recklessly in cattle ranches in the American West. Their most successful operation was the acquisition in 1882 of the million and a half acres of ranch lands and several thousand head of cattle in West Texas. A group of Dundee businessmen owned controlling stock in what became the Matador Land and Cattle Company and they turned local management over to Mudro Mackenzie, destined to become one of the most dominant figures in the development of the American cattle industry. At one time Matador cattle ranged over much of the Texas Panhandle and parts of New Mexico, Oklahoma, Nebraska, Wyoming, South Dakota, and Canada.

Unlike most of the ranching empires owned by foreign investors, the Matador survived periodic droughts, blizzards, and price fluctuations until the middle of the 20th century. "That it persisted was due to four features: 'a knowledge of good land, a reliance upon the best-bred cattle, an ample source of reserves, and a sound tradition of business management.'" (p. 224). By 1951, the property was valued at $19,000,000.
In that year the corporation followed the earlier example of the XIT and began selling off manageable units to ranchers and farmers. Undoubtedly, the desire for profit outweighed the pride of ownership of one of the most valuable pieces of Texas real estate ever liquidated.

W. Eugene Hollon
Santa Fe, New Mexico


*A History of Kilgore College* is that and much more. The authors, who are graduates of Kilgore College as well as teachers there, have told the story of the establishment of the city of Kilgore and of Kilgore College. They are obviously proud of their college and the accomplishments of its students, faculty, and administration.

In 1935 W. L. Dodson, superintendent of the Kilgore Independent School District, convinced the school board of the need for a junior college in Kilgore. Enrollment and expenses were high at distant universities, which made it increasingly difficult for middle income families to send their sons and daughters to college. A junior college in Kilgore would make it possible for students to live at home, work, and attend school. “The East Texas oil boom created a proper climate for the formation of a junior college. There was a need, the resources to fill that need, and advanced thinkers to orchestrate the program.” (30)

So Kilgore College began classes on September 13, 1935. Continuing effort has been made through the years to make Kilgore College the best junior college in the country. The faculty and administration constantly work to upgrade the educational opportunities and physical facilities for their students. The authors convey a feeling that at Kilgore College students are important people.

The book includes many photographs. Members of the 1935 faculty are featured. Oilfield scenes remind the viewer of the importance of the discovery of oil in East Texas. Photographs illustrate the addition of new buildings to the campus.

No discussion of Kilgore College would be complete without mentioning the Rangerettes. This group was organized in 1940 and has become a successful public relations agent for the school.

Well-known graduates of the college include Van Cliburn, a world famous pianist, for whom the auditorium in the Applied Arts Building was named. Alice Lon was a member of the Rangerettes and was the original Champagne Lady on the *Lawrence Welk Show* on television. A 1940 graduate was Myrick Land, an author, who later won the Pulitzer Prize for journalism while a student at Columbia University. He wrote for *This Week, The New York Times Magazine, Cosmopoli-
tan, and Look. (76) Harding Lawrence became chairman of the board of Braniff International.

Throughout the book the authors have paralleled the growth of Kilgore College with happenings around the world. As the college began in 1935, Hitler announced the build up of the German army. December 7, 1941, was a severely cold day in Leningrad. When the Japanese attacked Pearl Harbor, Hitler thought he would win the war. Tremendous changes in the economy are shown by the prices given for buildings, food, and clothing in the early years of the college.

An extensive bibliography and numerous appendices will be of interest to the reader who desires additional information.

Donna Heeney
Nacogdoches, Texas


Thirty years ago the University of Texas Press brought out a splendid volume of photographs by Erwin E. Smith, Life on the Texas Range, edited and interpreted by J. Evetts Haley. Now the Texas A&M Press has issued a strikingly similar volume that immediately invites comparison with the Smith-Haley classic. Edited by Margaret Rector, it embraces eighty-nine photographs by her father, Ray Rector, and a long introductory essay by John Graves. Like Erwin Smith, Ray Rector was born in Texas in the 1880s and experienced ranch life as a young cowboy. Both had an artistic bent as well as the sensitivity to recognize the need to record with their primitive Kodaks a phase of American life that was in danger of extinction. Both succeeded admirably, but whereas Smith’s work has long been recognized and acclaimed, Rector’s work has been little known beyond Stamford, Texas, where he operated a photography studio from 1903 until his death in 1933. Smith was a greater artist than Rector and had a keener eye for composition, but Rector’s pictures are just as valuable for the historian as Smith’s, and his scenes of Stamford and its annual Texas Cowboy Reunion, which he founded, contribute an extra dimension.

John Graves’ introduction is a highly artistic and perceptive essay on the twentieth century cowboy and the mystique that hovers over him. Although Graves has a tendency to use a hundred words where ten would suffice, his essay is both elegant and pithy, and his evaluation of the cowboy is one of the sanest in print. One more volume on the cowboy might seem superfluous, but this one is not.

Edward Hake Phillips
Austin College
**Texas Graveyards.** By Terry Jordan. (University of Texas Press, P.O. Box 7819, Austin, TX 78712), 1982. Notes, bibliography, index, maps. p. 147. $19.95.

Terry Jordan's *Texas Graveyards: A Cultural Legacy* is a useful, but disappointingly unambitious study of the material aspects of death in rural Texas during the nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. Using evidence such as graveyard plans, grave markers and structures erected in graveyards, Jordan examines the ritual of death as lived by members of the Southern Anglo and Black cultures, the German culture and the Mexican culture in Texas. In addition, he provides the reader with a brief discussion of the literature of death studies and with a plea for additional efforts to preserve the surviving rural graveyards of Texas.

The most valuable part of the discussion is Jordan's analysis of the interwoven Anglo and Black traditions. Recognizing that the two cultures borrowed heavily from one another to create a ritual of death, Jordan makes sense out of the scraped burial plot, ornamented grave mounds, the iconography of markers and the orientation of graves. The first two are derived from the Black traditions while the second are derived from Anglo experience. While tracing these patterns back across the South, Jordan does not fully explore how the two different traditions came together. Other sources suggest that the melding did not occur until the mid-to-late eighteenth century, but it would have been valuable to have Jordan discuss the question in more detail.

The German and Mexican traditions are also explored, although with less detail. Both are markedly different from that of the Anglo-Black culture. The Mexican burial ground is a landmark of color with few words, in the manner of those cultures which were the source of the Spanish Latin American culture. Like the Hispanic graveyards and unlike the Anglo-Black burial grounds, a majority of the Germanic graveyards are in sanctified ground. Most important, the Germans, who did have elaborate inscriptions on their tombstones, maintained the European heritage that had come with them, despite some early examples of conversion to the Anglo-Black pattern of burial. Jordan points out that, for both the Hispanics and the Teutonics, the graveyard remained truer to the original culture than any other aspect of life.

Despite the value of the individual essays, the analytical value of the work is limited. The author's methodological statement ignores the elaborate studies by historians working in the *Annales* tradition, such as Phillipe Aries, Michel Vouvelle, A. G. Dickens and David Stannard. These scholars have used the material evidence of death, as well as a variety of other sources, in both a statistical and a narrative framework, to explore the structure of individual societies. Issues such as acculturation, which are hinted at in brief references, might be more fully explored...
by an author using these techniques. The point of view of the traditional cultural geographer, as described by Jordan in his introduction, appears to lack the sophistication that the subject of the meaning of death in society requires. One can only hope that this study is the first step in a more thorough-going analysis of the meaning of death in the history of Texas. Yet, despite these problems, the book is a valuable, well-written resource that provides us with new insights into the history of Texas.

Patrick H. Butler III
Harris County Heritage Society


The chief value of Crawford and Ragsdale’s Women in Texas lies in its comprehensive time-frame and the wide variety of experiences it covers. Each of its thirty nineteenth and twentieth century biographies is complemented with a bibliography and at least one photograph.

Since Anglo-Texans have been in power since the 1830s, it is not surprising to find that theirs is the predominant ethnic group chronicled in the book; yet, Spanish and German cultures are also represented. However, no account of the experiences of native Americans in Texas is given, and U. S. Senator Barbara Jordan is the volume’s sole black Texas woman.

Women in Texas, funded in part by the American Association of University Women, is the result of ten years’ research. It is a volume rich in anecdotal and other detailed material. Chapter titles indicate the active careers of Texas women, from “Mother of Texas” Jane Wilkinson Long to “First Lady” Lady Bird Johnson. Elisabet Ney was a “Sculptress of Statesmen;” Irma Rangel, “First Chicana Legislator.” Adina De Zavala’s crusades to preserve historic sites earned her the title “Preserver of the Texas Heritage,” but Clara Driscoll became the “Saviour of the Alamo.” There is a “Foster Mother to a Community” (Ervendberg), a “Lady Ambassador for Texas” (Holley), “Texas’s Foremost Woman Educator” (Blanton), “The Little Lady on the Big Bench” (Hughes), and “The Texas Babe” (Zaharias), to say nothing of the book’s accounts of influential wives and successful cattle queen businesswomen.

With a style marked by clarity and readability, each chapter summarizes the life of a remarkable Texas individual. While controversies are not omitted, the tone is generally laudatory. The volume should
reach a wide general audience from public school readers to feminists, and should serve as a resource for serious research.

Ouida Whitaker Dean
Nacogdoches, Texas

The Irish Texans. By John Brendan Flannery. (Institute of Texan Cultures, P.O. Box 1226, San Antonio, TX 78294), 1980. Sources, photographic credits, index, photos and illustrations. p. 173. $7.95 softbound; $10.95 hardbound.

The Irish made ideal Texans. Accustomed to hard work, they adjusted to the toil and dangers of the new land. A love of freedom and in-bred resistance to the British prepared them for their first great test, the Texas Revolution.

From Ireland they brought Old World fears and restraints but saw these dissolve in a frontier environment where the Irish were needed and accepted. As Professor Flannery points out, the Irish often fell into a "ghetto complex" in the Eastern United States. But the fluid, developing society of Texas absorbed and shaped them, even to the danger point of losing their Irish heritage. In the late nineteenth century and again since the 1960s, Irish Texans have pursued organized efforts to preserve elements of their distinctive culture.

In this book, one of a series dealing with the many kinds of people who have contributed to the heritage of Texas, the author describes in detail the two Irish-founded colonies — San Patricio and Refugio — tracing many descendants to the present. Irish also came to other Texas colonies and later settlements.

Irish achievements are chronicled in diverse fields such as business, ranching, war, railroad building, and education. Even some of the "bad men" were Irish.

Interesting vignettes portray notable Irish Texans; among them the irrepressible Father Miguel Muldoon, the saintly Mother Margaret Mary Healey-Murphy, and the intrepid Dick Dowling of Sabine Pass fame.

One among many strong features of this work is that it conveys the soul and flavor of the Irish experience in Texas. Contributions of the Irish to the history of Texas are interestingly presented by the author, who has obvious love of the subject.

At times the story is overly episodic and chronologically confusing. The bibliography might have included more supporting sources. Basically, though, this is a readable, admirably illustrated, and fact-filled volume that leaves a pleasing impression.

William W. White
Texas Lutheran College
Nineteenth Century Church of Texas. By Lavonia Jenkins Barnes. (Historic Waco Foundation, Inc., P.O. Box 3222, Waco, TX 76707), 1982. Photographs. p. 199. $19.95.

The brief stories and informative photographs found in this volume are character studies of fifty-two central and East Texas churches selected by Mrs. Barnes.

The reader is treated to a brief narrative sketching a history of each congregation and the architecture they chose to house their occasions of worship. Then follows, in most cases, one exterior and one interior black and white photograph of the building.

Photographer Cecil Crow's shots tell stories as effectively as Lavonia Barnes' prose. The viewer feels the gulf breeze in the palms bordering Trinity Episcopal Church in Galveston. The homey neighborhood settings of Salado Methodist Church and Christ Episcopal of San Augustine invite the pilgrim inside while elegant, stately Grace Episcopal of Georgetown inspires the soul. Assurance of the eternal verities emanates from San Antonio's St. Mark's Episcopal Church.

Contrasts abound. One turns from the dignity of the bell tower at St. Andrew's Episcopal Church in Seguin to the simple bell scaffolding and the modesty of the Old North Church frame building at Nacogdoches. Truth in wood and stone is beautifully varied. Small Ebenezer Baptist Church of LaGrange displays a dramatic mural of Bethlehem. The Catholic churches ornately proclaim their traditions.

By word and picture the reader learns of migrant resettlings, fires, and the department store which surrounds San Antonio's St. Joseph's Roman Catholic Church—sometimes known as "St. Joskes."

For the art, the architectural significance, the history, the East Texas flavor—any or all of these are reason enough to own the book.

Jerry M. Self
Nashville, Tennessee


Perhaps one of the best written accounts of travel and innkeeper hospitality in early Texas was described by Frederick Law Olmstead in "A Journey through Texas; Or a Saddle-Trip on the Southwestern Frontier" (New York, 1860).

While rumbling across the Lone Star State, Olmstead was treated to everything from East Texas hospitality to gracious dining at a New Braunfels hotel. There was luxurious bedding to a simple blanket and a straw mattress. Brightly polished window glass to an open, drafty lean-to in the Piney Woods wilderness.
Kathryn Turner Carter, however, explores the better tourist accommodations, some of which are still standing and serving the traveling public.

Among them are sites well known to East Texans. It is a delight to see them again. Of particular interest are the Capitol and Henderson Stagecoach Inn (Marshall); Jefferson’s Excelsior House; the Rice Stagecoach Inn near Crockett; the Halfway House (Chireno); the Craig House at Beckville (Panola County) and the Hatchett Inn at Rusk (Cherokee County).

Carter, a fifth generation Texan, has painstakingly researched her material and added a number of rare photographs to her manuscript. Her bibliography is adequate for her subject matter.

Unfortunately, the book is a second printing and as is almost always the case, it is re-printed without an update on the status of the structures. If any have succumbed to the workman’s crowbar, the reader will not be aware of this fate. Or, if such a structure has been recently salvaged, this too would be a refreshing addition to the otherwise complete study.

Even with a wide variety of motels and hotels to choose from, today’s traveler could benefit by reading Ms. Carter’s work. Undoubtedly, one day a companion book will join this one on Galveston’s Hotel Galvez, Houston’s Rice Hotel and the community-spawned Fredonia in Nacogdoches.

Her book offers an insight to accommodations, architecture, furnishings and even gourmet delights. It is both useful and interesting.

Maury Darst
Galveston College


Born in Hastings, Minnesota, on March 24, 1864, Willis Day Twichell packed a full and rich life into the slightly more than 95 years given him on this earth before he died in 1959. A farmer’s son, Twichell early on decided that education was the way for him to loose the bonds of the granger and thus went to Lebanon National Norman University and graduated a civil engineer. Setting up his office in Springfield, Ohio, Twichell received a commission to do survey and plating work in West Texas and, in 1885, came to Texas, nevermore to leave the Lone Star State.

This book, Texas Was His Land, published by the Eakin Press of Austin, Texas, carries Twichell from the cradle to the grave, taking him through the various surveys of the XIT ranch, the rest of the Panhandle
of Texas, platting of towns (such as Tascosa), the setting up in Austin as a "cadastral" engineer, marrying and raising a family, then the Depression of the 1930s, retrenchment, overcoming adversities, and finally retirement, both partial and (still practically) total, and death.

While a welcome addition to the books of "no gun" men in Texas, the proofreading (or lack of same) in this book really detracts from its effectiveness. For instance, the statement "... two score years, 1850 to 1870 . . . ," on p. 35, is queer, to say the least, and having Twichell work with O. Henry in the Land Office in Austin in 1900 (p. 60) is ludicrous at best, and who ever heard of a ranch being enclosed by a "four-inch wire fence" (p. 70) anyway, in addition to calling Andy Adams' book *The Log Of A Country* in the footnote on p. 76. The book would be better off without these errors, certainly.

In all, though, Fred M. Truett has done a credible job writing about his father-in-law, who certainly helped in the rigorous job of settling West Texas, and *Texas Was His Land: Willis Day Twichell, Pioneer Surveyor*, is a welcome addition to any Texan's library.

H. C. Arbuckle, III
Corpus Christi, Texas


Taking Jackie Pruett's and Everett Cole's book on Buck Schiwetz in hand, my first inclination was, to paraphrase J. Frank Dobie on the cowboy, not another book on Buck Schiwetz—and probably not as good as the others either. As I thumbed through this rather poorly design and printed book, however, Buck Schiwetz's story came alive for me as it never has before.

Pruett and Cole are long-time admirers of Schiwetz and his work, and it is evident in the text of this book. Based on long interviews with Schiwetz, they tell his story, from his early difficulties at Texas A&M before he decided that he was not cut out to be an engineer; his discovery and documentation of Texas for Humble; and his later career as one of the best known and most loved artists in Texas. The story unfolds easily as Cole and Pruett tie together the fluent reminiscences of the artist.

Unfortunately, the book is better read than looked at, for the publisher did not serve the authors or the artist well in the design and printing of the book. The few color plates are spaced throughout the book, with little regard to the text. The black and white printing is reduced to an almost monotone gray and some of the pictures even appear to be out of focus.
I guess this book is something of a switch for the usual picture book—good to read but hard, especially if you know and love Schiwetz's work, to look at.

Ron Tyler
Amon Carter Museum of Western Art

Black Leaders: Texans For Their Times. Edited by Alwyn Barr and Robert A. Calvert. (Texas State Historical Assn., 2/306 Richardson Hall, Austin, TX 78712), 1981. Index, photographs. p. 237. $11.90, hardback; $6.95, paper.

The distorted or limited treatment of black Texans in many books on Texas has caused some teachers and scholars, especially in East Texas where blacks are the major minority group, to seek supplements for the standard texts. Previous studies were too encyclopedic (Alwyn Barr's Black Texans), too uncritical (Effie Kay Adams' Tall Black Texans), or too short and fragmentary (The Institute of Texas Cultures' publications).

Persons wishing one book to survey all significant black Texans will be disappointed with Black Leaders. The editors, Alwyn Barr and Robert A. Calvert, omit persons who lived most of their lives or made most of their contributions outside Texas or who are already the subject of published studies (except when one of the authors presents new findings). Scholars, teachers, and students who are already familiar with the existing literature or who want a scholarly, well written, interesting book as a beginning point for further study will welcome Black Leaders, the best supplementary book on Black Texans yet published.

Black Leaders is a collection of interpretive, biographical essays on eight black Texans, including a slave (not Estevanico), businessmen, a politician, a fraternal leader, educators, a civil rights plaintiff, and an artist. The essays cover the time frame of the 1860s to the present. The editors' introductions set each person into his/her historical context and suggest related readings for further study.

The essays vary widely in quality and scope. The studies of Matthew Gaines and William Goyens are models of extensive scholarship and clear, creative writing. The essay on Heman Marion Sweatt is a detailed description of the tactics and strategies of litigation for civil rights in education in Texas as well as a sympathetic, but not uncritical, treatment of Sweatt's role in these activities. The adequate biographies of William M. McDonald and John Biggers fulfill the book's aim of presenting men who were outstanding in their fields or representative of their eras, but the study of the urban, rebellious slave, Dave, does neither. The essay on W. R. Banks is solid scholarship, but has stylistic weaknesses, especially the author's ambivalence about whether
to engage in scholarly criticism of Banks' shortcomings or personal appreciation of the many pressures on him. Unfortunately, the essay on the only woman, Mary Branch, is more eulogistic than analytical.

The title, *Black Leaders*, needlessly creates the conceptual problem of defining black leadership. The book presents little evidence that these persons exercised leadership outside their occupational or geographic setting, if there in the slave's case. This terminology's ambiguity could have been avoided by referring to the men and woman as outstanding or notable.

Despite these limitations, *Black Leaders* is an important contribution to scholarship on Texas history as well as the best supplement on Black Texans. It should be in every library of Texas history.

Robert G. Sherer
Wiley College


In *The Afro-American Periodical Press, 1838-1909*, Penelope Bullock presents biographies of the editors, publication histories, and content analyses of ninety-seven periodicals published or edited by black authors from *The Mirror of Liberty* in 1838 down to the first modern black periodical, *The Crisis*, in 1910. Appendices give publication and finding data by title, first issue's date, and state in which each was published.

Bullock describes these periodicals in the context of social and political developments in the United States. She found that periodicals began during periods of intense racial injustice—1838-1848, 1854-1863, and 1880-1910—when black Americans needed publications to voice their protests and to express their creativity. Limited financial support made most of these periodicals short-lived. None published before the Civil War survived the war, although some begun after 1880 are still published.

Within its defined limits, the book is a well researched, basic reference work. Every library with a black studies or journalism collection should have a copy.

Despite the book's substantial reference value, it has serious limitations for historians, even those in black studies. Lengthy descriptions of individual periodicals at the end of each chapter destroy the narrative flow. Bullock describes better than she analyzes. She frequently asserts that a periodical was significant, but seldom shows its influence on other periodicals or black or white readers.
Bullock's organizational structure also limits the book's value. Her rationale for stopping in 1909, *The Crisis's* beginning in 1910, seems inadequate and artificial. Her definition of "periodical" is questionable. Authors such as Martin E. Dann in *The Black Press, 1827-1890* list as newspapers some of the publications Bullock includes as periodicals. On the other hand, Bullock chooses to omit periodicals not published monthly, religious periodicals below the national level, and publications issued by fraternal and beneficial societies, newsletters and student publications from educational institutions, magazines for children and young people, Sunday School literature, and church missionary journals. (p. 2)

Serious students of black writing will find the book useful within these narrow boundaries. Historians of East Texas will look elsewhere. The only East Texas periodical described is the Palestine *Colored American Journal*, published 1882-1883, of which only the January, 1883 issue has survived.

Robert G. Sherer
Wiley College


In the late seventies, Matt S. Meier and Feliciano Rivera endeavored to compile a functional dictionary on Mexican American history for broad-based audiences, ranging from secondary school and university students to librarians and professional researchers. In a single volume the editors incorporated numerous subjects, in some cases with information unavailable heretofore in conventional sources. For most entries they supplemented the material with bibliographic references for further reading.

Using the term *history* in a panoramic sweep, Meier and Rivera expanded the scope of entries to include high-profile personalities of Mexico and the Borderlands, current events phenomena of the Chicano movement (Brown Berets, *Raza Unida*, urbanism, Viva Kennedy Clubs), and popular as well as little known acronyms (LULAC, MALDEF, MAPA, and MAYO). The chronology, therefore, spans from 1519, with the conquest of Mexico, to 1980, with the inauguration of the Decade of the Hispanic.

As in any scholarly enterprise of impressive magnitude, *Dictionary of Mexican American History* will be criticized more for its omissions than its inclusions. Of the 19th century historical personalities ("culture heroes or villains," as the editors indicate), New Mexico received the majority of entries (35%), with Texas, California, and Arizona in
descending order. In sharp contrast, for the 20th century they devoted more space to contemporary Mexican American Californians (33%), with the Lone Star State and the Land of Enchantment vying for second and third positions of prominence, followed by Arizona and Colorado. For instance, notwithstanding the meritorious achievements of Julián Nava, Julién Samora, and Tomás Rivera, two of whom are educational administrators in California, the nagging question is why the editors selected only these three scholars as models of neo-culture heroes? Assuredly, the editors encountered difficult situations involving hard choices concerning which items to accommodate or omit, compounded, no doubt, by fluctuating levels of cooperation on the part of contributors vis-a-vis printing deadlines.

Reinforcing the informational value of the contents, Meier and Rivera included several appendices to assist scholars in understanding and appreciating highlights of Mexican American history. Quite useful is the bilingual text of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo and the Protocol of Querétaro. For the uninitiated researcher, the glossary of Chicano terms and the checklist of Mexican American journals are helpful and instructive. Social scientists, particularly those committed to the doctrine of quantitative statistics, will applaud the tables of census, education, employment, and immigration. Finally, the maps, depicting the evolution of Southwestern states and demographic patterns, complement the total effort.

Using current Members of Congress as a yardstick for comparison, the Dictionary is definitely weighted in favor of Pacific coast legislators. Whereas the editors allocated to Eligio de la Garza and Henry B. González of Texas one-third and one-half pages, respectively, they assigned nearly two pages to Edward R. Roybal of California. Since all three Democratic Congressmen initially won election to the U. S. House of Representatives in the early sixties (González, 1961; Roybal, 1962; De la Garza, 1964), they have earned seniority and status. González, for example, is a ranking member of the Committee on Banking, Finance, and Urban Affairs; De la Garza is chairman of the Agriculture Committee, two prestigious assignments not reflected in the text for their entries in the Dictionary. The uneven and unfair treatment of the Tejanos’ accomplishments conveys a distorted impression that California Mexican Americans work harder than those in other states. This flagrant imbalance is an obvious weakness of the volume.

Overall, Dictionary of Mexican American History is an excellent contribution to the reference book category. In a period of national financial stress, the prohibitive price of $35.00, in all probability, will restrict sales to libraries and dedicated aficionados.

Félix D. Almaráz, Jr.
The University of Texas at San Antonio