Book Reviews

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BOOK REVIEWS


Printing Arts in Texas. By Al Lowman. (Jenkins Publishing Co., P.O. Box 2085, Austin, TX 78768), 1981. Photographs, Bibliography, Index. P. 107. $29.95

Vanishing Breed is a photo book that has to be read. Individually William Allard's photographs are, at times, mediocre, but he has provided just the right textual framework to tie this disparate collection of photographs into a meaningful photo essay. By the time the reader has worked his way through the book he intuitively understands why each photo was included. He also understands something of Allard's love affair with the West, the real subject of the book.

These pictures of cowboys, horses, dirt, dust, and the land go beyond being a simple collection of photographs. Some of them are exceptional photographic art, such as a Montana ranch house that looks like an Andrew Wyeth beach house or a Nevada calf-roping scene taken off a Charles Russell canvas.

At the heart of Allard's art, however, are his images, some subtle, some haunting, all of them statements about the modern yet somehow timeless American cowboy and his life and work. These photographs convey more than their visual substance. They convey both the artist's and the subject's feelings, which, after all, is what good art is supposed to do.

While Vanishing Breed is good art, Printing Arts in Texas by Al Lowman is about good art. It is a short but detailed history of quality printing in Texas. Lowman covers almost 160 years of Texas printing from the works of Samuel Bangs, beginning in 1817, to that of William Holman, whose design for this project won the Texas Institute of Letters Award for book design in 1975.

This book does two things well. It provides an outline of the development of quality printing in Texas with descriptions and illustrations of the work of a number of artists from the 1830s to the present. And, by the example of its own quality, it underscores the author's unspoken plea for greater attention to detail and rejection of mediocrity in the printing arts, a responsibility of the reader as well as the printer.

A book of this quality demands rigorous evaluation and Printing Arts in Texas has some faults. A major fault is the collection of the illustrations at the end of the book. This makes it awkward to refer to the illustrations as one reads the text. The illustrations themselves,
in monochrome, loose their sharpness on the book's light cream paper. The whole work, however, stands head and shoulders above the standard product of the American printing industry.

For anyone seriously interested in printing in Texas or printing in general, for the book collector or the eclectic collector of Texana, this book is a must.

Ron Spiller
Nacogdoches, Texas


This little book (163 pages of text) is a readable and entertaining account of the evolution of cotton growing from its ancient origins in both the Old World and the New and cotton manufacturing to the present era. Mrs. Dodge, an accomplished writer with over a dozen books to her credit, treats very well — with numerous personal insights — the invention and development of the various mechanisms, such as the spinning jenny and power loom, needed to create the modern cotton textiles industry. Her description of the American cotton industry, made possible through Eli Whitney's invention of the cotton gin in 1793 and Samuel Slater's successful cotton mill established in Rhode Island at about the same time, is especially well drawn. The role of Southern cotton in international politics during the American Civil War is told well. The concluding chapter, "The King's Rivals," discusses the competition from other fibers such as hemp, silk, and especially the synthetic fibers of recent years. Appropriate illustrations are interspersed throughout the book.

_Cotton_ is obviously intended for the general reader. The specialist or professional scholar will not find much of great value in its pages. The work suffers from a lack of any notes (except for an occasional one to identify quotations), too many quotations (some, several pages in length and others connected together with only an interlinking sentence or two), and a rather sparse bibliography.

The definitive, scholarly history of cotton remains to be written. However, in the meantime Dodge has provided us with a brief, concise, and engaging account of the most important fiber ever known to man.

James M. Clifton
Southeastern Community College
Whiteville, North Carolina

Born in 1861 of Irish immigrant parents, James Mooney grew up steeped in the lore and mythology of his Irish heritage from which sprang a consuming interest in American Indian ethnology and an exceptional sympathy for the underdog. These qualities often led Mooney into confrontations with missionaries, army officers, and bureaucrats of Indian Affairs who presumed monopolistic knowledge of what was good for Indians. Mooney saw assimilation as the ultimate goal even of his own research, but he was far ahead of his time in resisting violent destruction of Indian culture.

Mooney's great talent lay in field research, including an uncanny ability to win the confidence of Indian informants, as reflected in his publications relating to the Kiowas, Sioux, and Cherokees. Unfortunately, the researches of his latter years — and perhaps his finest ones — were unfinished and remain unpublished.

Mooney worked among many pioneers of American anthropology. While often professionally at odds with his colleagues, and little respected by some of them, Mooney's role was significant and his biography essential to understanding the emergence of professional anthropology and particularly ethnology of Native Americans.

The career of the "anthropological Irishman" evolved through a series of reasonably chronometrical phases which are the subjects of nine well-documented chapters. Moses' bibliography reflects diligent research in an array of archival collections and in secondary materials as well. He gives us a fine account of a fascinating life and a sound contribution to the literature of American history, anthropology, and Native American ethnology.

Frederick W. Rathjen
West Texas State University

Western Outlaws. The "Good Badman" In Fact, Film, And Folklore. By Kent Ladd Steckmesser. (Regina Books, Box 280, Claremont, CA 91711), 1984. Photographs, Bibliography, P. 172. $11.95 Paper; $18.95 Cloth.

In Western Outlaws Kent Steckmesser engagingly explores The "Good Badman" In Film, Fact, And Folklore. Professor Steckmesser first discusses Robin Hood, carefully tracing the development of the legends in England and searching for shreds of truth among the romantic tales. Then he brings the legend to America, analyzing his popularity as a charming, jolly rebel, and describing the books and motion pictures which have celebrated Robin Hood and his merry men. The reader's view next is turned to the outlaws of America,
rogues perceived to have robbed only the rich, at least occasionally helped the poor, and conducted themselves with a light-hearted flair, a sense of humor, and clever resourcefulness.

American outlaws "added to their appeal by being mounted" and the public "identified them with a fast-fading frontier individualism." [p. 15] Joaquin Murrietta is shown to have had as vague an existence in California as Robin Hood in England, but "literary manipulation . . . transformed ugliness into Beauty if not Truth." [p. 24] Next the career and popularization of Jesse James are examined. "It is conventional to call him 'the American Robin Hood,' but his legend has swollen to such dimensions that perhaps it is time to call Robin Hood the 'Jesse James of Old England.'" [p. 43] Billy the Kid, Butch Cassidy, and Pretty Boy Floyd each receive inspection in their turn, and each outlaw is shown to have developed similar appeal and a comparable path to lasting fame.

Steckmesser writes adroitly, and his background information is reliable and perceptively interpreted. The transformation of each bandit into a folk hero — through folklore, songs, dime novels, "biographies," motion pictures and television episodes — is traced in detail, revealing numerous insights into the psychology of the American public. One particularly interesting insight is the explanation of why certain outlaws — "Captain Lightfoot" (Michael Martin), "Lewis the Robber" (David Lewis), Jack Powers, Tom Bell, et al. — never managed to capture the imagination of the public.

The book is well-illustrated, featuring photographs of Western outlaws and towns, and still photos from movies about outlaws. There is no index, but the last fifteen pages of the book comprise a superb, chapter-by-chapter bibliographical essay which serves as a valuable guide to literature about the outlaws, their exploits, and the books, plays, and movies about them. The bibliography alone is worth the price of the volume, but Western Outlaws offers an appeal as broad as the traditional popularity of its subject.

Bill O'Neal
Panola Junior College


"You know, Ranger," the madam said to Private Lewis Rigler, "we're really in the same kind of business when you think about it. We're both trying to please the public in our own way." [p. 86].

In his own way, Rigler tried to please the public as a Texas Ranger for thirty years, and In the Line of Duty relates his experiences and
observations. For example, the chapter on “Ranger vs. Prostitutes” records Rigler’s revulsion at having to pretend to buy a whore’s services so he could arrest her, especially since convictions proved almost impossible to obtain. “Frankly,” fumed Rigler, “I’ve always thought it was a waste of a Ranger’s time and talents to go after whores.” [p. 79]

Other lawbreakers were befriended by Rigler: “In fact, I liked a lot of the criminals better than I did some of their bondsmen and attorneys.” [p. 120] With relish Rigler describes methods of thwarting the efforts of lawyers and bondsmen, such as the “East Texas Merry Go Round.” When a thief was apprehended in one East Texas County, he immediately was whisked to another county so his lawyer would go to the wrong jail. For a week to ten days the prisoner would be whisked from one county jail to another; since many of them had a narcotics habit, they would spill “all the informations you needed” [p. 123] by the time they could be located by their attorneys.

It is with these behind-the-scenes revelations that Rigler’s account of his career comes to life. Rigler first recalls his rural upbringing in McLennan County, then briefly describes his tenure in the Civilian Conservations Corps and in the United States Army. Married in 1937, he later joined the Department of Public Safety as a driver’s license examiner. Rigler transferred to the Highway Patrol in 1942, then received a Ranger appointment in 1947 as a private in Company B. Headquartering in Gainesville, Rigler worked a variety of cases during the next three decades. These included brutal murders, mysterious disappearances, the Long Star Steel strikes of 1957 and 1968, guard assignments during presidential visits to Texas, as well as a host of other engrossing experiences. Rigler also describes legendary Ranger captains Bob Crowder, Tom Hickman, and Manuel (Lone Wolf) Gonzaulles.

*In the Line of Duty* contains several photographs but no index. Judyth Wagner Rigler, daughter-in-law of the retired Ranger, helped to write the book, but it remains a highly personal reminiscence with a captivating look at law enforcement. This book is a welcome addition to the lore of Texas Rangers during the twentieth century.

Bill O’Neal
Panola Junior College


*The Texas Literary Tradition: Fiction, Folklore, History* is a necessity for any bookshelf remotely or closely concerned with “Texas,” “Western,” or even “Southern” literature. The collection
of pronouncements by writers, critics, historians, and sundry aficionados is certainly worth procuring for a number of reasons.

To begin with, the editors have paid a great deal of attention to the organization of the book. The "Introduction," at times a very readable bibliographical essay, will stand on its own. Graham, Lee, and Pilkington, while preserving the flavor of the meeting itself, provide the rationale for the organization of the materials included and excluded (Poetry and drama are not covered.) Also, the essay is accompanied by footnotes. The reader can track down the sources for the provincial-versus-universal, rural-versus-urban, Western-versus-Southern, and belles-lettres-versus-anecdotes and controversies as they are stated and rebutted by Larry McMurtry, A.C. Greene, and others in the Observer and the Texas Humanist.

The book, following the proceedings of the conference, is divided into six sections. Section One, "THE OLD GUARD," covers the triumvirate of Dobie, Webb, and Bedichek. As the editors quote McMurtry in their Introduction, "The writer . . . who wishes to write about this state must relate himself one way or the other to the tradition they fostered, whether he reads the three men or not." John Graves provides the overview of the "Old Three." His considerations of Dobie are the usual ones: Dobie's sentimentalism, love for the settings, lack of love or actual hate for form, refusal or inability to move toward fiction, the rejection of consistency in life and writing. Necah Furman finishes the section with a consideration of Webb as "Pioneer of the Texas Literary Tradition."

Sections II, and III, and IV are divisions of Texas prose literature into three main traditions: the Southern, the Western, and the Texas-Mexican. Specifically, Section II, "THE OLD ORDER," defines Texas' "Southern Roots," looks at the "Old South" in the tradition, considers "Universality," and reflects on Katherine Anne Porter's work as a dimension of the above concerns. Contributions are by Norman D. Brown, James W. Lee, Joan Givner, and William A. Owens.

Section III, "THE VANISHING FRONTIER" focuses on the "Texas Frontier," the "Frontier of the Imagination," and "Traditions." Essays are by William T. Pilkington, R.G. Vliet, and Beverly Stoeltje. Also in this section is "The Western and the Literary Ghetto," by Elmer Kelton. Kelton, author of The Good Old Boys, The Day the Cowboys Quit, The Time it Never Rained, The Wolf and the Buffalo, and many others, departs from the "perspective" of the other contributions in his discussion of the nuts-and-bolts problems of actually writing, publishing, and marketing one's own work in the shrinking market for the "vanishing frontier." Anyone who has seen a course syllabus destroyed by a "Temporarily Out of Stock" invoice from Ace, Bantam, or their cohorts knows the terrible reality of Kelton's article. Critical and popular perspective both are shaped by
what is or is not marketed. If legitimacy in belles lettres has anything to do with the availability of the text, Mr. L. L'Amour, not a Texan, is certainly gaining incredible stature. Kelton's concern ought to be a major one for the academy.

Section IV, "THE MEXICAN-AMERICAN PERSPECTIVE" provides views of the "geography" of our Texas-Mexican writings. Rolando Hinojosa-Smith and Thomas Rivera, artists both, write about "The Writer's Sense of Place" and of "The Establishment of Community," Rivera offers sections from several of Hinojosa-Smith's works (Estampas del Valle and Korean Love Songs) as portraits of the communal voice. He defends the Mexican-American community voice seen by some critics as a flaw. "The writer speaks from the community, by characterizing members of the community, thus extracting wisdom, advice, and counsel from it." Other contributions in this section are by Americo Parades, Ramon Saldivar, and Jose E. Limon.

Sections V and VI, "THE TEXAS MISTIQUE" and "THE SIXTIES AND BEYOND," are attempts to forecast the future of Texas letters. Literary expression in the media of film and television are discussed as are literary influences on popular culture. Essays are by the editors and Gene Burd. Carol Marshal interestingly treats "Images of Women in Texas Fiction" who "try to live out the fairy tale motif, in which the fair princess is rescued by the handsome knight and taken away to live happily ever after."

The book closes with a selected annotated bibliography organized according to the sections of the book. The listing is a good beginning point for anyone interested in further study.

What The Texas Literary Tradition does best is to provide a frame or focus for further considerations of Texas prose. Risking a "provincialism," one might say that most of the contributions are pretty down-to-earth. There is a refreshing lack of pedantry and empty academic "structuralizing" in the presentations. The contributors are to be congratulated for their sense of audience, the editors thanked for their attempt to order the array of critical evaluations and for inviting comment from the artists themselves.

Of course, no study of this type can be inclusive. But even given McMurtry's admonishment to Texas writers to give up the "bucolic essay," the sesquicentennial conference should invite a major Texas writer who has appeared in the Observer and in University of Texas Press trade books. Certainly Elroy Bode, ignored in these last proceedings, would take time from his secondary school classes in El Paso to receive some of the attention he has earned.

Lee Schultz
Stephen F. Austin State University

Fighter, soldier, general - John B. Hood, "the gallant Hood of Texas," figured prominently in the rise and decline of Confederate fortunes. This biography portrays not so much his battles or his troops but, as a biography should, his life. Also understandably, the book covers his entire life but concentrates on corps and army command in the ill-fated Army of Tennessee. It persuasively portrays him as a younger man of the self-romanticized, post-1830s South who brought both the strengths (gallantry, dash, combativeness) and the weaknesses (inattention to detail, lack of thorough planning) of self-styled knightly culture to the exercise of command.

Within its acknowledged limitation of there being no corpus of Hood papers in which to center the work, this is, far and away, the best biography of him to date. It is an important work from one of the best American Civil War historians of this generation, Richard McMurry. Whether in smiling at his tongue-in-cheek exaltation of Georgia Militiamen as "stalwart" and "sturdy" or in savoring his penetrating analyses of Hood's achievements and shortcomings throughout the war and of the Southern high command in the Atlanta Campaign, we look forward to further studies from this able and productive scholar, especially on the Georgia Campaign and the war in the Western Theater.

Richard J. Sommers
U.S. Army (Military History Institute)

Robert E. Lee. By Jefferson Davis and Alexander Stephens. Edited by Colonel Harold B. Simpson. (Hill Junior College Press, P.O. Box 619, Hillsboro, TX 76645), 1983. Photographs, Appendices, Selected Bibliography, Index. P. 121. $10.00

This book republishes two separate magazine articles about R.E. Lee written almost a century ago by the former president and vice president of the Confederacy. Rescuing these little-known but interesting pieces of prose, Harold B. Simpson provides an introduction and explanatory notes for each article.

Of the two articles, the one by Jefferson Davis (twelve pages long; posthumously published in The North American Review in 1890) is more thoughtful and insightful. As Simpson notes, Davis and Lee knew each other all their adult lives — as cadets at West Point, while Lee was superintendent of the Military Academy and Davis was secretary of war in the 1850s, and, of course, while each made important contributions to the Confederacy.
Stephens’ essay (thirteen pages long; published posthumously in the *Southern Bivouac* in 1886) is shallow and superficial. It is one of many postwar works contracted for publication by the vice president, whom Simpson calls “Little Ellick” rather than “Little Aleck,” the more widely cited nickname.

While some readers will regret that Simpson’s bibliographical citations accompanying the Stephens article are not as thorough as the ones for the Davis essay, they will still congratulate the editor for returning to print these two assessments of General Lee by the Confederacy’s top civilian leaders.

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


A group of 856 young men from varied backgrounds and circumstances descended upon College Station during the first year of the Great Depression (1930) to enroll in A&M College. Four years later 255 of them were graduated and went out to make their mark in the world. During their days as cadets and students they formed bonds that would last a lifetime, evidenced by their holding a class reunion each year since 1956.

Haynes W. Dugan, a member of the class and former public relations man for General George Patton, undertook the task of writing the story of this class. Questionnaires were sent to all living class members, student newspapers and yearbooks of the 1930-34 period were thoroughly researched, and significant events in the history of A&M and the United States during 1930-1982 were reviewed in order to compile this 344 page volume.

The book is divided into four main parts: (1) campus life to graduation, (2) graduation to World War II, (3) World War II, and (4) the Post World War II era. Information concerning the people who made up this class in terms of their activities during each of these periods is presented.

Anyone who has been associated with Texas A&M will benefit from reading this volume. Experiences will be relived and new insights will be gained concerning the Corps, the traditions, and the role of the land grant institution. Those not too familiar with A&M can receive a real inside story from this detailed presentation.

Charles W. Brown  
Stephen F. Austin State University

Early Texas settlers confronted an incredible largesse. Clouds of pigeons, ducks, and geese blackened the skies, and herds of buffalo blackened the prairies. An energetic hunter was sure to bag a deer for supper in most parts of the state if he started out an hour before sundown. *Wildlife and Man in Texas* is a chronicle of the continuing destruction of game populations and habitats on the nineteenth-century Lone Star Frontier, followed by an analysis of efforts, largely in the twentieth century, to restore wildlife to its former abundance. Fortunately the expansiveness of the subject matter makes up in part for the dreariness of the incessant killing.

It would be hard to do a better job than the author does in describing nineteenth-century man-wildlife relations in Texas. Since trail drivers, sodbusters, and explorers did not carry statisticians with them, the figures and trends reported by the author are at best approximate. Anecdotal autobiographical and journalistic sources provide most of our information on the various frontier wildlife annihilations. The author's account of twentieth-century wildlife management and restoration is, by contrast, more accurate (including statistical tables and biological reports) but less fascinating. The final chapter, "Trends and Prospects," says nothing whatsoever about clearcutting, strip mining, water pollution, acid rain, or the extent of urban sprawl. It should be rewritten for subsequent editions to include these important factors.

Pete A.Y. Gunter
North Texas State University


In this study historian Michael L. Kurtz has examined the records and evidence of the assassination of John F. Kennedy and joined those who have held that the Warren Commission's Report was incomplete, inaccurate, and biased. After studying the various sources and analyzing the Alfred Zapruder film, frame by frame, he concluded that there was, indeed, a conspiracy, shots were fired from more than one direction, and more than one person was involved.

As for Lee Harvey Oswald, the writer thought that he might or might not be guilty but many of Oswald's movements did not coincide with the sequence of events outlined in the Warren Report. He
offered the speculation that a look-alike double confused the tracing of Oswald's movements before and during November 22, and deliberately set Oswald up as a "patsy."

There are, however, many questions concerning the evidence presented and the conclusions reached. When blown up, the 8 mm. Zapruder film was so fuzzy and unclear that it would be difficult to prove anything from it. Also, people do not react in a predictable manner when shot so the violent, convulsive movements of President Kennedy did not necessarily prove that he was shot from both the rear and the front. Further, there were hundreds of people on or near the bank on the right of the parade route but no one actually saw a person fire a rifle there. There were eye witnesses to the shots from the Book Depository Building.

The solution that Kurtz proposed is intriguing and possible but rather far-fetched. Among the suspected conspirators he has listed Castro-Cubans, anti-Castro groups in the United States, or perhaps elements of an organized crime syndicate. He concluded that the principal conspirators escaped and their identity will probably never be known. To accept Kurtz' thesis the reader would have to reject completely the Warren Report. It is doubtful that this volume, well-argued though it is, will change many minds about the tragedy in Dallas.

Robert S. Maxwell
Stephen F. Austin State University


Author Robert Darden, currently the entertainment editor of the Waco Tribune-Herald, presents the first biographies of three talented and influential cartoonists who for over seventy years distilled facts and opinions for the editorial page of the Dallas Morning News. The book presents a study of the lives and works of artists John Knott, Jack "Herc" Ficklen, and Bill McClanahan. Their careers parallel virtually the entire scope of journalism and cartooning in Dallas and Texas from the early 1900s when Knott was hired by the News, through 1976, when Ficklen retired.

The author makes a strong case for the importance of political cartoons in a free society and argues that political cartoons offer a unique perspective unavailable elsewhere of the changing facets of political and cultural life. As far back as the 1870s "Boss" Tweed of the powerful New York political organization understood the power of the political cartoon when he demanded: "Let's stop them damn pictures. I don't care so much what the papers write about me — my constituents can't read — but damn it, they can see pictures."
Darden not only effectively chronicles the lives of these three important cartoonists but also compares their styles, originality, and personal and political beliefs. The methods of selecting topics for editorial cartoons varied among the three artists. For example, during Knott’s tenure with the News the cartoon was normally based on the lead editorial and Knott submitted his work prior to publication for approval by management. After Knott retired (1957), Ficklen and McClanahan saw the end of this “assigned editorial” era and were given the freedom to draw on whatever ideas came to mind without reference to editorial policy or content.

This attractive and lively coffee table book is illustrated with nearly 100 examples of the works of these award winning artists. These cartoons alone make the book a valuable addition to the libraries of collectors and historians alike.

J. David Cox
Stephen F. Austin State University


Edward Wagenknecht, emeritus professor at Boston University, is one of the most prolific students of American culture and literature. He has over forty monographs and edited works to his credit. Some of his contributions to scholarship are outstanding, and his mastery of biography is impressive. *American Profile 1900-1909* is Wagenknecht’s personal attempt at a synthesis of culture and society in the first half of the progressive era. His essays on such diverse subjects as politics, publishing, business, education, and the arts are supplemented not only with the interpretation of other scholars but also with his own first-person reminiscences. While these insights into the beginning of the twentieth century are entertaining and sometimes enlightening, the lack of footnotes and the abundance of unclearly credited quotations are quite confusing.

*American Profile* is a loosely constructed and at some times disjointed collection of essays. Wagenknecht has included three principal types of essays in the work: political biography, centering around Theodore Roosevelt; cultural and institutional histories, featuring individuals who advanced business and culture of the period; and a collection of short but lively biographies, termed “representative sketches.” A heavy reliance on individual biographies is not the most effective methodology for constructing a social history. Especially hard to accept is the idea that such figures as J.P. Morgan, Andrew Carnegie, Thomas Edison, Helen Keller, John Singer Sargent, and August Saint-Gaudens are “representative figures of the time.”
American Profile is intellectual history attempting to be social history. Despite its weaknesses as a social chronicle, it does have value. This volume provides insights into the arts and styles of the day and the prominent personages who made these values standard. The book is an interesting and well-written work which will be of interest to many historians and general readers but will be of less value to specialists in progressive age America.

M. Edward Holland
Oklahoma State Archives


The human need for entertainment, diversion, and relaxation is well exemplified in this study of one aspect of life in the Ozarks between 1885 and 1910. Robert K. Gilmore has assembled a broad-ranging view of folk entertainments from extensive interviews, letters, diaries, and newspaper clippings of the period. These he has carefully organized into general categories which include chapters on literary events, school programs, religious gatherings, local dramatic productions, box-and-pie suppers, picnics, and a variety of other activities. The combined picture reveals a population of eager, intelligent, and energetic people thirsting for social relationships and capable of creating a rewarding lifestyle for themselves in spite of their semi-isolation from the mainstream of American social and cultural activities.

The author is at his best in describing the ritual of the box-and-pie supper and in his discussion of the debates, readings, and monologues of which the "literaries" were composed. Here, while retaining a researcher's objectivity, he verges on recreating the events through verbal pictures that take the reader back through time to the small communities in the Ozark mountains. It is at these moments that his work is a discussion of folkways at its best. Unfortunately, the title of the book is somewhat misleading, for the discussion of baptizings and hangings is found in no more than five of the 264 pages.

The book is well designed with easy to read type on non-glare paper and thirty-one well-chosen full page illustrations. The appendix is composed of twenty-three transcripts of interviews conducted by the author. These are of value not only for the factual material included but for the manner of expression as well. The author has
carefully noted his sources throughout and a very adequate index has been provided.

W. Kenneth Waters
Stephen F. Austin State University


C.L. Sonnichsen’s observation in a 1950 publication about modern ranching that a cowboy has “about as much chance of becoming a cattleman as a rustler has of getting into Heaven,” was (and remains) mostly accurate. During the course of his research, however, Professor Sonnichsen apparently never encountered Ted Gray. Gray, a Texas cowpuncher still in his 20s, was battling seemingly insurmountable odds to save a half interest in a mortgaged herd from a killer drought in the early 1950s. That he eventually emerged triumphant from this classic confrontation to become a successful cowman and bank director seems almost unbelievable. But readers soon learn to expect the remarkable in _The Last Campfire_, Barney Nelson’s fine biographical-autobiographical treatment of Ted Gray’s life.

Growing up around Jacksboro on the eve of the Great Depression, Gray admired the look and the manner of the few old cowpunchers and ranchers who still inhabited the region. Not anxious to follow the plow as did his father, Gray struck out on his own at the age of fifteen to “make a hand” among the cowboys of the West. Gray slowly climbed the ladder of responsibility from cowhand to wagon boss to ranch manager and finally to ownership of his own land and livestock. The fascinating account of his education in the saddle smells of burned hide and choking dust and creaks authentically like saddle leather and bowed legs. But _The Last Campfire_ is much more than a collection of twice-told tales from another stove-up cowboy.

Ted Gray has something more to say to us. His life, in a very real sense, embodies the American Dream and the traditional American values of hard work, long hours, gritty determination, and unflinching honesty. His philosophy inspires and captivates without resorting to maudlin sentimentality. Seldom has the oral tradition been better utilized in a published work.

The author’s introductory and explanatory text at the beginning of each chapter plays an important, if somewhat subdued role, in enhancing the reader’s understanding of Gray’s extended monologues which follow. Only rarely will the reader become bogged down by detail or repetition or lost in historical time and space. Those few occasions could have been mitigated by a few additional reference points and an appropriate map locating important landmarks mentioned in the text. Although Gray’s story is full of detail, inquisitive readers will wonder at the scant mention of his family life and particularly of Addie, his wife of nearly forty years. There is so much good about this book, however, that it almost seems petty to criticize its minor
shortcomings. Within the real of range literature *The Last Campfire* is a pleasant addition and a significant contribution to the understanding of both the myth and the reality of the Texas cowboy and cowman.

B. Byron Price  
Panhandle Plains Historical Museum


This was originally a doctoral dissertation at the University of West Virginia in 1976. Researched in the mid-1960s, the bibliography only lists eleven items published between 1967 and 1973, and none after that date. Daddysman could have profited from a number of studies completed after the mid-1960s by the Hannas, Dr. Crook, A. Blumberg, H. Blumenthal, K. Schmidt, S. Bernath, C. Hale, P. Kennedy, R. Weinert, J. Fenner, and my study of U.S.-Confederate-Mexican relations. He missed a number of earlier, useful items: R.B. McCormack, J. Dabbs, N. Ferris, G. Casebier, and Robt. Brown. It is also not clear why Daddysman titled his book MATAMOROS TRADE rather than Lower Rio Grande trade. The latter title more accurately describes the region covered in the text and draws less attention to the author's lack of use of Spanish sources.

Daddysman frequently selects older, ill-considered sources for background materials. For example, he cites H. Herring's general history of Latin America to describe the state of Mexican politics in the mid-nineteenth century rather than a competent study of Mexican society in the nineteenth century. He used Pratt and Donaldson to describe broad diplomatic relations in the American Civil War years rather than newer and fuller studies.

The chief problems for readers will probably lie in the fact that, beginning with the third chapter, Daddysman's book tends to be repetitive. For no apparent reason, Daddysman opted for a "topical" rather than a chronological order, leading to recurrent covering of familiar ground and repetition of certain material. If the reader overlooks these rather important flaws, the narrative will supply a reasonably reliable and readable description of the complex problems of the Lower Rio Grande during the Civil War years.

Thomas Schoonover  
University of SW Louisiana

"Port Hudson," author Edmonds observes in his preface, "was more than just a town." It was "an event—like Shiloh or Bull Run or Vicksburg" that made national headlines in 1863. Volume I of Professor Edmonds' two-volume history of the Fort Hudson campaign is the chronological narrative of Admiral David Farragut's attempt to run the high-cliffed Confederate batteries at Port Hudson and, once past the Rebel shelling, patrol the Mississippi up to Vicksburg. Described in diary form, The Guns of Port Hudson is footnoted abundantly and indexed and historically sound; and yet, for the armchair historian suckled on the wizardry of a Bruce Catton, Professor Edmonds' first volume reads like a team of oxen, shank-deep in bayou mud, pulling a forty-pound howitzer out of the ooze.

Admiral Farragut, a central character in the midnight of Saturday, 14 March, is alternately heroic and plagued by self-doubts. Edmonds' Farragut "fears Washington's politically motivated actions and fuzzy judgments." (p. 225); in the same breath, Admiral Farragut ridicules General Nathaniel Banks, who along with the Conqueror of New Orleans was to fulfill General Winfield Scott's Anaconda Plan (the opening of the Mississippi to Union trade and travel), as a vacillator and glory-seeker. "Old Commissary General" Banks, like many officers on both sides of the Potomac, rose through the military chain of command by swiftly and successfully heeding the political winds of Massachusetts. Neither man completely understood or trusted the other. Added to this professional wariness a communications system very nearly untenable and a veritable nest of Southern sympathizers (especially in Baton Rouge and New Orleans) and Major General Franklin Gardner's infantry brigades at Port Hudson and the reader may have some idea of the setting for Farragut's midnight dash to safety.

Edmonds' narrates, one begins to feel, is one faded newspaper clipping at a time. Ever the omniscient kibitzer, the energetic author does his best reporting when he introduces a chapter with a quotation from one combatant's memoirs. Then there is the feeling of close quarters and the smell of gunpowder. Much, however, of Port Hudson reads like Fenimore Cooper's most romantic conventions. Witness the scene in which "Disaster Number Two," the ambushing of two of Banks' most reliable and flamboyant officers, is depicted:

More than that, the ladies of New Orleans would be terribly distressed. Clark, in their opinion, was not like those other spiteful Yankees, who lied, stole, and cheated on their wives. He was a true gentleman, who exhibited compassion, understanding, and
leniency. Never mind that he was merely fulfilling the General’s wishes. He was also tall, handsome, and charming. Yes, they would miss him, and he would be the topic of conversation during afternoon tea, when all those little vignettes about him would buzz from ear to ear, especially that story about his declining an offer for tea because he knew the hostess would have been ostracized for willingly socializing with a Yankee, and he had not wished to compromise her honor. Now there was a true gentleman. Surely, Southern blood must have flowed in his now cold veins. Poor Colonel Clark. Even if he was a Yankee. (p. 68).

One of the Civil War’s ironies, of course, was the sectionalism that split families and twisted sympathies. As Edmonds observes, “Farragut, a Southerner, was about to lead a powerful fleet against a mighty Confederate fortress commanded by a Northerner.” (p. 97) Indeed, the Admiral had prepared for all contingencies, right down to placing the gunboat Albatross alongside the Admiral’s flagship in case the Hartford was grounded on the river’s numerous sandbars. Though the Hartford escaped damage, the “Cromwell of the Fleet,” the steam frigate Mississippi ran aground and the Confederate batteries sank her. Eventually, Farragut’s fleet anchored at New Orleans and Banks marched his troops to Vicksburg and the armies of Grant.

Edmonds’ research in Volume Two of the Port Hudson campaign will recreate the “investment, siege, and reduction.” (p. xvi) With a more polished style and erudition and perhaps cleaner galleys, smoother sailing is in the offering.

Robert C. Davis
Richland College


In important respects, these books are unfortunately, perhaps unfairly, paired. Carefully crafted studies by able historians, both are works of mature synthesis that draw heavily on secondary sources and yet provide important insights into Southern distinctiveness. Both are compact, range widely over time, and examine the ways in which progress or modernity have shaped the region and its identity. Beyond these superficial similarities, however, there is little common ground.

Of the two, Richard Current’s is the most traditional book and, to this reviewer’s mind, the least engrossing and significant. He has treated an old subject in an imaginative and novel way, but his tale
is nonetheless a generally familiar one to historians of the South. Prepared for the 1982 Lamar Lectures series at Mercer University, *Northernizing the South* is organized into three chronological chapters that examine abiding Southern efforts to resist, and occasional Northern efforts to promote, the “Yankeefication” of the South during the two centuries since the 1780s. Although conceding the durability of the “idea of the South,” Current sides with those relatively few Southerners — Hinton Rowan Helper and Howard W. Odum, among them — who have minimized the cultural differences that separate South from North. From the beginning, he notes, Southern spokesmen have emphasized the region’s uniqueness and have portrayed the North (by which they meant the rest of the country) as a threat to the South’s distinctiveness and cultural independence.

In Current’s view, these “Southernists” have overstated the case, for in “basic values . . . Northerners and Southerners (with few exceptions) have been typically American all along.” Whatever differences there may have been in the days of Jefferson, he asserts, have been eroded gradually by such modernizing forces as urbanization and industrialization. Amid the ebb and flow of interregional population shifts after World War II even the central difference — pervasive and institutionalized white supremacy — lost its salience as race relations in Dixie came to approximate those elsewhere in the nation. But if he discounts the actuality, he does not doubt the perception or Southern uniqueness nor the resolve of Southerners to resist northernization. This brief volume begins with an interesting biographical sketch of its transplanted Yankee author and ends with a useful bibliography. From first to last it is both a thoughtful restatement of the persistence of the idea of regional differences and a suggestive reminder that those who would understand the South must understand its enduring fear of nationalization.

Cowdrey’s *This Land, This South* is a pioneering study, the first full-scale environmental history of the Southern region. Examining the “interface between culture and nature,” he describes some five hundred years of interaction between land, people, and climate in the physical setting of the South. His concern throughout is to demonstrate how “man and land have shaped each other in a little corner of the world.” As other reviewers have noted, Cowdrey wrestles perhaps too briefly with the idea of the South and seems merely to presuppose regional peculiarity. He does not adequately address the question of whether there is a “Southern environment,” one sufficiently different from that of the larger nation as to be, in U.B. Phillips’ words, “the chief agency in making the South distinctive.” He is sensitive to the relationship between human culture, on the one hand, and soil, landforms, climate, flora, and fauna, on the other. Yet he does not fully explore the influence of the region’s natural
environment on the region’s history, nor does he offer a satisfying environmental explanation for the persistence of Southern particularism. His accomplishment is major, however, and his book ranks as one of the most important to appear about the South in recent years.

In ten gracefully written, roughly chronological chapters, Cowdrey traces the processes of change and interaction from the formation of “Indian society,” through the development of the “row-crop empire” and the transformations of boll weevil, depression, New Deal, and war, to the metamorphosis of South into Sun Belt. Within each chapter he describes the travails of people, plants, animals, and disease in order to show “what the South was like” at a given time. Historians will find his topical analyses of agriculture and the exploitation and conservation of wildlife and other natural resources both instructive and fascinating. But Cowdrey’s signal feat is his examination of cholera, hookworm, malaria, pellagra, smallpox, typhoid, tuberculosis, yellow fever, and the other afflictions and contagions that make up the Southern disease environment. No other scholar has written so comprehensively and authoritatively on man’s encounter with the disease entities that have burdened the region so gravely.

In sum, both books are useful, but Cowdrey’s is a path-breaker.

Neil McMillen
University of Southern Mississippi


For anyone interested in a succinct statement of what distinguishes “North” Louisiana from “South” Louisiana, North Louisiana . . . To 1865 admirably serves that purpose. Although admittedly omitting some topics of discussion in this regional analysis, the editor of this volume of essays, B.H. Gilley of Louisiana Tech, has brought together eight articles by well-known North Louisiana scholars that portray the settlement and development of the region roughly north of Alexandria from the early nineteenth century to the end of the American Civil War. In doing so, the essayists have clearly defined the cultural chasm which separates North Louisiana (pronounced Luz-e-ana) from South Louisiana (pronounced Louie-zee-ana).

Gilley has drawn on the local history expertise of three colleagues from Louisiana Tech, John D. Winters (for two essays), Philip C. Cook, and Morgan Peoples. These were wise choices, not only for the expertise involved but also because a balanced view of North Louisiana history might best be seen from the hill country of Lincoln Parish.
Cook's article on the first three decades of settlement in the upland frontier combines well with Winters' essay on the settlement of the delta northeast and Peoples' piece on the region's antebellum politics. Together, they tell the story of the passage of the southern flank of the American frontier through the northern part of Louisiana. Their efforts indicate how the Anglophone cultural wave, swiftly moving from east to west, dashed itself on the ramparts of the Latin Gulf Coast, particularly Southern Louisiana.

French and Spanish endeavors, for over a century, to contain the Anglophone tide east of the Mississippi River led the Latin powers to develop a series of outposts on the banks of that river and its tributaries. E. Russ Williams of Northeast Louisiana State University opens the volume with a discussion of the Spanish attempt to settle Northeastern Louisiana, particularly through the efforts of Jean-Baptiste Filhiol at Fort Miro (present-day Monroe). Like other Spanish outposts farther upriver, Fort Miro was inundated in the cultural flood unleashed by the Louisiana Purchase. Williams' article poignantly points up, once again, the fact that Latin human resources in the mid-Mississippi Valley were no match for the Anglo-Saxon thrust westward.

It is in the essay by William A. Poe, of Northwestern State University, that the reader discovers the ideological basis for the cultural chasm dividing the Louisiana — religion. Poe states the case in unequivocal terms: "The most comprehensive and overriding legacy from Europe, shared by all Protestant groups, was Anglo-Saxon fear and distrust of Roman Catholicism. Anglo-Saxons in the northern parishes clung to this legacy with a tenacity not unlike its sixteenth century form." (p. 115) It has been religion, therefore, not political or economic considerations that has dictated different lifestyles in the two regions of the state. It has been upon this rocky shoal that the Protestant fundamental and the Latin laissez-faire philosophies have futilely churned for nearly two centuries. Politically and economically speaking, there has always been but one Louisiana; religiously speaking, there are two.

Hubert Humphreys, recently retired from LSU-Shreveport, presents a brief history of transportation in the Red River Valley, particularly in connection with the removal of the Great Raft by Henry Miller Shreve. Humphreys' article, together with that on people of mixed racial stock in the Natchitoches area, by Gary Mills of the University of Alabama, clearly demonstrates, at least to this reviewer, that Northwestern Louisiana is somewhat different from the rest of North Louisiana. In that region, the Red River has served as a cultural link between North and South Louisiana. With better means of transportation, after the removal of the Raft, Red River plantation owners forged strong political and economic ties with their
southern counterparts. Indeed, as Peoples notes, large parts of the two regions were at one time in the same congressional district. Mills, in recounting the story of the Metoyer family, really points up the cultural insularity of the Natchitoches area, one of several weak spots in the cultural levee that divides Louisiana.

Finally, John Winters rounds out the volume with an excellent synopsis of the Civil War in North Louisiana. In doing so, Winters indicates what so many Civil War historians have concluded, the Southern cause was lost because of the lack of men, material, and mental acumen.

North Louisiana... To 1865 is one of the McGinty Trust Publications of Louisiana Tech. This is a recent publishing venture, and the fact manifests itself in this volume. While it is difficult to regularize stylistic differences of several authors, it would appear that greater editorial effort should have been made in this direction. There are, also, several typos throughout the volume, but perhaps the most serious one occurs in Peoples' article when it is stated that Alexander Porter organized the Louisiana Whig Party on his plantation near "Franklinton." (p. 146) Franklinton is the parish seat of Washington Parish. Alexander Porter's plantation "Oak Lawn" was near Franklin, parish seat of St. Mary Parish. Finally, this reviewer remains puzzled as to why these "local" historians did not make greater use of parish archives for their documentation. Courthouse records remain one of the great sources for local and regional history in Louisiana.

Whether one considers himself a native of "Luz-e-ana" or "Loui-zee-ana," the fact remains that North Louisiana... To 1865 spells out the basic cultural similarities and dissimilarities of the state's two regions and thereby affords the reader a better understanding of the historical consequences of this corner of America's melting pot.

Glenn R. Conrad
Louisiana History


This is a book for laughter. Its lines arrive in delightful columns, wired home by reporter Susan Myrick to four Georgia newspapers from January to July, 1939. As the technical adviser on location during filming of "Gone With the Wind," Mrs. Myrick learned and shared much. She dispensed that knowledge with sincerity and mirth to her Deep South readers, who lived worlds away from the Hollywood dream factory.
Susan Myrick was a close friend of Margaret Mitchell, author of *Gone With the Wind*. Both women, in totally different ways, became centrally involved in the greatest Southern adventure in Hollywood history.

Writing "Straight from Hollywood" columns in her eyewitness prose, Susan Myrick calmed Southerners anxious because three of the film's four major stars were British. Fascinating details emerged in filming Old South behavior, costume, geography, culture, and speech. In delightful paragraphs we see how Ms. Myrick daily shared meals, first names, and endless practical jokes with one of film industry's most famous casts. It remains miraculous that one of Hollywood's epic films was completed in merely six months.

*White Columns* ably reflects a remarkable person whose life and laughter spanned over eight decades. We are grateful for her exceptional contributions to professional journalism, and again to editor Richard Harwell. His entire career has nurtured so very well the life and literature of the Confederacy.

Staley Hitchcock
Union Theological Seminary

*We Can Fly: Stories of Katherine Stinson and Other Gutsy Texas Women.* By Mary Beth Rogers, Sherry A. Smith and Janelle D. Scott. Drawings by Charles Shaw. (The Texas Foundation for Women's Resources, P.O. Box 4800, Austin, TX 78765), 1983. Photographs. P. 184.

Katherine Stinson, the gutsy Texas woman of the subtitle, became the fourth licensed woman pilot in America in 1912, beginning her aviation career eleven years before Charles Lindbergh took his first flying lesson. A stunt flyer, she also set endurance and distance records, performing from coast to coast, in Canada, and in Europe. The early pilots had their own fan clubs and were "as popular as movie stars or sports heroes — and much more daring." In 1915, Stinson became the first pilot to do night skywriting, and the following year toured Japan and China as the first woman to fly in those nations. There were 25,000 people to welcome her to Japan.

Stinson's sister Marjorie could fly also. Known as "the flying schoolmarm," she taught military flying and gunnery techniques to World War I cadets in San Antonio, earning her own sidebar story.

The story of the WASPs (World War II Women's Airforce Service Pilots) is told, including the loss of their military flight careers as a class (December 1944 as the European war wound down) despite their individual accomplishments. America's women astronauts' stories are in the final chapter.
The book celebrates a potpourri of personalities. The roll call of heroic Texas women sounds out: Adair, Adair and Goodnight, Driscoll, Graham, Herzog, Idar, Jones, de Magnon, McCallum, Ride, Stinson, Zaharias and others. As athletes, crusaders, doctors, directors, astronauts, ranchers, and inventors, they soared. According to the introduction, all these "gutsy" ladies dared to dream extraordinary dreams, they had unusual self-confidence, they took risks, they overcame obstacles and personal disappointment, they persisted, and they had an impact on Texas.

*We Can Fly* was published in cooperation with The Texas Foundation for Women’s Resources (P.O. Box 4800, Austin 78765). Although the integrity of the research is thus well-grounded, the usefulness of the study would be expanded if the volume were indexed.

Subject matter is interestingly and effectively presented, with ample visual enhancement permitted by the 8½ x 11 inch format. Both drawings and photographs are widely used throughout, many being full-page “bleed-offs.” The photographs have been exceptionally well-chosen and presented.

Ouida Whitaker Dean

Nacogdoches, Texas


Two small volumes which deal with the Reconstruction period in East Texas but which otherwise have little in common are James Lemuel Clark’s *Civil War Recollections of James Lemuel Clark* and Judith MacBain Alter’s *Luke and the Van Zandt County War.* The first is primary material that brings fresh detail to the controversial story of the Great Hanging at Gainesville, and the second is a novel written primarily for juveniles. Each is an important addition to East Texas historical literature.

Clark was a contemporary of the Great Hanging, and his father was one of its more than forty victims. From various recollections Clark scribbled down in his latter years, his grandson, L.D. Clark, has provided this edited account of those experiences along with a thirty-nine-page Introduction that puts the memoirs in perspective. The result is a third important piece on the Great Hanging, to be

Julia MacBain Alter, while writing for one audience, will likely attract two. Juvenile readers everywhere will benefit from this folksy account of life in and around Canton, Texas, during that county’s unique Reconstruction experience. The fictitious central characters are themselves youngsters. The tale is based on real situations in which the citizenry of Van Zandt County was at odds with more conservative Southern attitudes during radical Reconstruction — especially with those of the Ku Klux Klan. Adult readers will also find the book of interest. Written in a warm and lively style, it reflects well the place and the times.

Frank H. Smyrl
The University of Texas at Tyler


As another evidence that Texas is fast approaching its sesquicentennial mark, twenty Texas historians have decided to celebrate this event by writing essays on various aspects of growth and development in this state. Guided by editor Don Whisenhunt, a former professor at the University of Texas at Tyler turned vice president at Wayne State College in Nebraska, eight historians have covered lengthy periods of time beginning with the Indians and progressing through modern-day Texas. Twelve others have specialized and therefore have discussed briefly such subjects as railroads, highway development, conservation, agriculture, minorities, religion, education, violence, energy sources, and apparel manufacturing.

Taken as a whole, this work attempts to present state history in a “serious, but readable, fashion for Texans” (p. vii), while at the same time providing a “balanced presentation” (p. viii). And in the main, these scholars have been successful. Although some of the time periods are far too broad for a twenty-to-thirty-page essay to cover, the research is sound and the writing clear. Such recognized historians as Archie McDonald, Bob Calvert, Bob Maxwell, Don Hofsommer, Paul Carlson, J.B. Smallwood, Earl Elam, Margaret Henson, and Ralph Wooster add luster to this work, and the younger, lesser known scholars demonstrate their research abilities on their specific areas of expertise. As a result, *Texas: A Sesquicentennial Celebration* is a creditable addition to Texana.

Ben Procter
Texas Christian University

During the Great Depression, the Works Projects Administration — Federal Writers' Project collected narratives of personal life histories throughout the United States. Among the most interesting of these are the interviews with former slaves and cowboys in Texas. Although many of the slave narratives have been published, until this volume appeared, the cowboy narratives had not been available to the general public. This volume publishes, for the first time, thirty-two cowboy narratives from the more than 400 reviewed by the editors of the volume.

The narratives published provide an account of Texas cowboys' perceptions of life on the range. Intertwined with the accounts are photographs of cowboys taken by Erwin E. Smith of Bonham, Texas, 1905 until 1915.

The narratives selected are intended to be representative of life on the Texas range. Most of the cowboys worked long, hard hours, received little pay, liked adventure, and were always broke. Nevertheless, the interviewees appear to be satisfied with their lives as cowboys, and they freely talked about the interesting events in their lives. They admired, and therefore sought to become, good ranch hands, and most of them believed they had succeeded in doing so.

The authors are careful to include minorities who were cowboys — both Negroes and Mexicans — and to reproduce accounts of women who lived among them. The volume makes interesting reading and presents a favorable picture of the Texas cowboys.

Bill Ledbetter
Cooke County College


This book delivers an uncompromising message: "Those who have traditionally dominated Texas history have published works that reveal, in fact and interpretation, serious flaws, deficiencies of research and detectable bias, especially concerning the relationship between whites and Mexicans." In short, Texas history has been written from a viewpoint of racial bigotry.

Professor Arnoldo DeLeon is not the first historian to say this, but few, if any, have said it quite so well or as completely. Drawing
upon a wide range of secondary and primary sources, and using techniques derived from psychohistory, he traces the racial attitudes of Anglo Texans towards Mexicans from first settlement to the twentieth century. He believes that prejudice preceded encounters. Thus, white bigotry came before contact with people of color and caused the automatic definition of other races and ethnic groups to be one of inferiority. That attitude encouraged not only bad history, but "placed few social restrictions on a long tradition of violence which ultimately aided and abetted white Texans in keeping ethnic minorities subordinated."

DeLeon develops this theme by describing first the racial stereotype that Anglos drew of Mexicans. Tejanos were described as a racially impure (mixed-blood), who were typically lazy, brutal, shiftless, sly, unpatriotic (the Civil War and the Spanish-American War), immoral, depraved and treacherous, in other words, subhuman. These prejudices permeated all strata of Anglo society and consequently sanctioned individual and institutional persecution and degradation of Mexicans. In psychological terms, this process is called projection: A society justifies its brutality and inhumane actions towards minorities by designating that group as subhuman, and, consequently, its base instincts can only be controlled by brutal, societal force, either institutional (the Rangers) or voluntary (white-capping and lynching). The brute-Mexican image justified the lawlessness of Anglos. DeLeon elaborates upon that theme in the second part of the book. He concludes his study by pointing out that Anglo-Americans clearly do not hold the same image of Mexican-Americans that they once did. Prejudice remains, however, and the author suggests that part of that stems from earlier racial stereotypes of Tejanos as "Not the white man's equal."

This well-written, thin volume stands ably on its own merits. It never purports to compare white attitudes towards Mexicans with similar views held towards other minorities. It never suggests that Anglo stereotypes of Tejanos apply to other states. Yet, in my opinion, the monograph works best when considered in conjunction with DeLeon's first book, The Tejano Community, 1836-1900 (1982), and with other historians who owe so much to Winthrop Jordan's seminal study, White Over Black (1968). Indeed, DeLeon acknowledges his debt to Jordan. This collective body of historical literature is forcing scholars to explain partially social relationships between whites and people of color in terms of blatant prejudice. Consequently, this book, and those like it, should encourage historians to write finally a multicultural/racial/ethnic history of a very heterogeneous state.

Robert Calvert
Texas A&M University

Written by a peace-time militiaman from Oklahoma, Citizen Soldiers recounts the history of the Oklahoma National Guard from its inception in 1890 to the present. This quarto-sized volume attempts to do justice to one of the most outstanding military forces of the era. First mustered into service for duty on the Mexican border in 1916, the Oklahoma militia was merged with the 36th Division, Texas National Guard, and served in France in World War I. In the early 1920s these citizen-soldiers were organized along with contingents from Colorado, New Mexico, and Arizona into the 45th Division, and called the Thunderbird Division. After World War II the division became an all-Oklahoma outfit.

The author goes into much detail about the other components representing Oklahoma, including the post-World War II Air National Guard. It was during World War II that the 45th Division gained its greatest fame. Landing in Sicily in July 1943 along with the two regular Army Divisions, the 1st and the 3rd, the 45th Division spent several weeks clearing the island of Germans. On September 10 units of the 45th Division came ashore at Salerno, Italy, in support of the 36th Texas Division, which was the first American contingent to assault Hitler's Fortress Europa. This fact the author fails to note.

The Thunderbird Division had a distinguished record in the European fighting as a part of the American 6th Corps in both France and Germany. Returned to state control after World War II ended in 1945, the 45th Division again saw active duty during the Korean War. In the early part of 1952 the 45th Division found itself in battle, and the names "Porkchop Hill" and "Heartbreak Ridge" took on personal meaning to those in the ranks when the 45th defended the "Jamestown" line, the center of resistance. By 1968 the 45th Division was reduced to a brigade.

Kenny Franks, a native Oklahoman, has done good service in portraying the state's organized military history from its beginning, and the University of Oklahoma Press has produced a sturdy and handsome volume.

Robert L. Wagner
Austin, Texas


The Second Infantry Regiment was a Confederate group raised
mostly from Harris, Houston, Chambers, Robertson, Brazos, Galveston, Burleson, Lee, Gonzales, Wilson, and Jackson counties. Drilled and provisioned in Houston, they were placed under General Earl Van Dorn's command in the Trans-Mississippi Department in March 1862. The Second Texas fought well at Shiloh, Corinth, and Vicksburg, and left the flower of its volunteers dead on those battlefields.

After the collapse at Vicksburg Confederate General J.C. Pemberton reluctantly authorized a furlough for the Second Texas Infantry and in the late summer of 1863 the regiment returned piecemeal to Texas. Reorganization and return to the battle line was the goal pursued in Houston but the Second Texas was destined never to cross the border of Texas again. Garrison duty in Galveston, and for many lack of pay and death from fever, was the fate of most members of the regiment until Lee's surrender.

The author, a professor of Mathematics at Pan America University, has done a service to the history of the Trans-Mississippi Campaign, generally overlooked in the Rush to feature the units of the Army of Northern Virginia and its glamorous personnel. Illustrious Texas names are associated with the Second Texas: Ashbel Smith; Colonel W.P. Rogers; and Sam Houston, Jr., to name a few. The Second Texas Infantry was, however, more the story of ordinary men who laid down their lives for a cause in which they believed.

Robert L. Wagner
Austin, Texas