

nized that the taxpayers and voters of Wisconsin demanded state and local governments that would equalize taxes and improve public and private services. When La Follette saw a change in emphasis by progressives toward concern for jobs and economic expansion, he accommodated this shift, but he continued to reflect the more "radical" aspects of progressivism. His efforts on behalf of the Seamen's Act combined concern for the welfare of American sailors with a desire to enhance the safety of passengers. Above all, La Follette kept abreast of the changing mood of the electorate in the Badger State and the Midwest.

Thelen's interpretation alternately challenges and frustrates. He writes of a "progressive movement" often divided between the "insurgents" and the "modernizers." His arguments are very similar to those made in his equally provocative book, *The New Citizenship* (1972). As Thelen places La Follette in the vanguard of those who wished to make government responsive to the problems of a nation being transformed by industrial capitalism, he attempts to make a distinction between the consumer/taxpayer "insurgents" and the job oriented "modernizers." In so doing, he tells the reader almost as much about the 1960s and 1970s as he does about the progressive era.

Undergraduates will find the book provoking and stimulating, and graduate students will be forced to come to grips with the theses. The general reader may long for more about La Follette and less of Thelen's analysis of "insurgency."

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Keith L. Bryant, Jr.

The University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire: A History, 1916-1976. By Hilda R. Carter and John R. Jenswold. (Eau Claire: University of Wisconsin-Eau Claire Foundation, Inc., 1976. Pp. xii, 162. Illustrations, notes, bibliography, appendixes, index. \$7.98.)

Alumni will find this sympathetic study of their school nostalgically rewarding. For others, it will constitute a case study of the virtual revolution in higher education of the recent past. Beginning as a noncollegiate normal school, the institution at Eau Claire progressed through the familiar

stages from teachers college to part of a pluralistic state university system. Such schools have often been criticized by educational purists but praised by others as "peoples' colleges" supplying local and inexpensive training to a near cross section of the nation's youth. Whether a different type of institution could have better performed this service is irrelevant to the historical process. The American social revolution was still alive in the field of educational opportunities.

The authors have produced a carefully researched, well written history with an attractive format. Much labor, love, and care have obviously gone into its production. The work's semiofficial nature, however, is sometimes too apparent. Academic changes that were largely products of their times are likely to be too closely attributed to a particular dean or president. The treatment of extracurricular life of women students might well have focused more on them and less on the dean of women.

Within this context, however, the book is worthy of the appreciative audience which it will have. At some future time, when the golden age of escalation of higher education can be viewed in perspective, more definitive philosophical conclusions can be attempted with respect to all current educational efforts.

University of South Dakota, Vermillion Cedric Cummins

Growing Up in Minnesota: Ten Writers Remember Their Childhoods. Edited by Chester G. Anderson. (Minneapolis: University of Minnesota Press, 1976. Pp. 250. Illustration, note, biographical notes. \$7.95.)

Minnesota has a mild, middle of the road reputation. Its scenery, wildlife, cities, and politics hardly arouse feverish emotions. Even the Vikings, the state's professional football team, seem quiet, well behaved fellows. And visitors to the state can stay indoors when the weather turns *really* cold.

Belying the public image of the state, the autobiographical essays contained in *Growing Up in Minnesota* are intense, sharply etched, and extremely varied reports of life in the Gopher State. Correspondent Harrison Salisbury, poets Robert Bly and Gerald Vizenor, writers Meridel Le Sueur and Shirley Schoonover, Kierkegaard scholar Howard Hong, and