

senses an urban orientation in the construction of this volume, which deals with the problems of immigration, work and unemployment, and war, as they influence the family. However, rural poverty and the rural to urban migration are also illustrated. The material is organized in a circular fashion that is designed to encourage the student to think about himself and his family and thus to motivate him to examine the family's history. Two of the great events of the twentieth century—the Great Depression and World War II—are used as examples to illustrate the way in which world events affect families. After bringing the student through World War II, the authors then swing back to reflecting on modern American life. Here they develop themes of generational tension in manners and morals and the problems involved in adapting to a rapidly changing, highly technological society. Along the margins of the various readings are questions designed to prompt class discussion or student thinking. "Are trial marriages a good idea? Why or why not?" (p. 232). An appendix contains materials and advice to aid students in researching their own family history. The work is well-illustrated and reflects considerable research in a variety of photographic archives.

*Generations* is a combination of a mini-history of the Depression, World War II, and postwar America as seen from the perspective of the individual and the family. The problems of the acculturation, racism, poverty, migration, and work are developed not as political issues but as factors with which people have to deal as they "grow up" in modern America and with which their parents struggled during the Depression and World War II. It is an excellent and unique approach to introducing the beginning student to the concepts of family history and recent American history. With a little luck the student will get interested enough in history to take another course.

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*Registration Methods for the Small Museum: A Guide for Historical Collections.* By Daniel B Reibel. (Nashville: American Association for State and Local History, 1978. Pp. 160. Notes, illustrations, appendixes, bibliographical note, index. Paperbound, \$6.75.)

As Reibel states in his preface, he has tried to "present the means to develop a registration system that will be as good as any and up to the current state of the art" (p. 7). He has

succeeded in doing just that. He presents the various steps and procedures needed to accession objects properly and provides alternative solutions for each step. He correctly recognizes the fact that no museum is exactly like any other museum and that as a consequence registration systems must be tailored to fit individual needs and resources. He also states: "It is more important to be consistent, accurate, and complete than to favor any one system over another" (p. 113).

Reibel approaches his subject by taking the reader through each step in the registration process; i.e., acquisition, numbering, loans, etc. He presents a variety of means by which these steps can be approached and gives examples and conditions under which, in his experience, each approach works best.

The book reads well and is uncluttered by professional jargon. Certain terms which may cause confusion, such as accession, catalog, museum, are defined in the first chapter and give the reader a clear idea of how these terms are used in the museum field today. Anyone involved in either starting a museum or working in an established one will find this an essential volume to add to their library. The clear and concise presentation of the subject matter by someone who has had much experience makes this a most useful book. Although the literature on small museums is not particularly large, that which is available is of high quality, and this latest addition to the field fills the long-neglected gap concerning small museum registration methods.

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