

Hoover complements the illustrations with a narrative text strong in economic and social commentary. Some readers will quarrel with his definition (p. 64) of a Hoosier as a "rough countryman," but most will enjoy his remarkable powers of description and compression. Compression implies selection, and selectivity here is quite good. The most remarkable omission in the text is the history of the visual record itself. By their skill, artists and photographers shaped this pictorial imagery in both conscious and unconscious ways. It would be fascinating to learn more of these people so that we might know how their visions of Hoosiers and the Hoosier experience helped to shape our own. Knowing more of them might also help explain the curious lack of portraits of women, immigrants, and minorities in several chapters.

Hoover's best chapters, as well as the book's greatest emphasis, lie in the years between 1880 and 1925. There, as the state moves from an agrarian to an industrial base, the author offers an excellent definition of the changing sense of "place" within Indiana. Surveys of this type are notoriously prone to minor errors, but (apart from advancing Charlie Halleck's first congressional victory from 1935 to 1932) this book is remarkably free of them. Hoover and Rodman, in short, offer an absorbing introduction to a lively topic, encouraging us to reinterpret our past by viewing it once more.

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*Indiana & the Old Northwest: An Exhibition in Honor of the One Hundred and Fiftieth Anniversary of the Indiana Historical Society, November 1980 - February 1981.* (Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Society, 1980. Pp. 55. Illustrations, maps, appendix. Paperbound, \$2.00.)

This slender volume, well illustrated and handsome in appearance, is far more than a catalogue for an anniversary exhibit. It does indeed serve to identify and explain the thirty-seven items featured by the Indiana Historical Society in its 150th birthday exhibition and to illustrate twenty-one of them, two in color. More important in a longer view, it demonstrates once again just how rich the Society's holdings are for everyone interested in the history of Indiana and the Old Northwest.

From Samuel de Champlain's *Voyages* (Paris, 1619) to Thomas Say's *American Conchology* (New Harmony, 1830-1838)—here are some of the most important books, maps, and

manuscripts that made this great interior region of North America known to the wider Atlantic world. Most of the items are rare works, often listed in bibliographies but seldom available to readers. One pamphlet is unique—the only surviving copy of *The Life and Confession of James Hudson* (Indianapolis, 1825), the first white man executed in America for the murder of an Indian, “written and published at the request of the deceased.”

Of itself this catalogue has permanent value for librarians and rare book dealers, or as an elegant souvenir of the exhibit. For students of history its greatest service is to call attention to the valuable library of the Indiana Historical Society. A similar exhibit for items published since 1838 would be a welcome elaboration of this theme.

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*Lew Wallace: Militant Romantic.* By Robert E. Morsberger and Katharine M. Morsberger. (New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1980. Pp. xii, 560. Maps, illustrations, notes, bibliography, index. \$17.95.)

Lew Wallace, one of the most fascinating Hoosiers, has been in need of an objective, scholarly biography for a long time. The only reliable work on Wallace was Irving McKee's short, undocumented biography, published in 1947. Wallace's autobiography was less than half complete when he died, and his wife Susan chronicled the remaining forty-five years of his life in 200 pages. As with most autobiographies, Wallace's, although informative and entertaining, is self-serving—an important consideration when studying the man's life.

Robert Morsberger and Katharine Morsberger have attempted and for the most part succeeded in producing a definitive one-volume biography of this man who played an important role in American military, literary, political, diplomatic, and religious history. It is unfortunate that this book cannot be given unqualified praise; however, it has some serious weaknesses. The most disturbing is its lack of adequate documentation. Although the bibliography is impressive, the end notes are much less so. In the first eleven chapters the authors rely exclusively on Wallace's autobiography in more than half of their notes. Also, the authors depended almost entirely for their primary source material on the Lew Wallace letters in the Wallace Collection of the Indiana Historical Society Library. Although this is a fine collection whose use is greatly