

(p. 174). Ironically, just a few years later the national mood shifted toward ecology, and the market for American-made steel declined precipitously. In the past fifteen years Dunes advocates have faced new controversies centering on park expansion, tourist facilities, the threatened building of a nuclear power plant, and the reactionary policies of Department of Interior Secretary James Watt.

The authors' eight years of research yielded a harvest of information gleaned from sources ranging from organizational files to oral interviews. Sometimes their generalizations are overdrawn, as when they claim that "no one in Lake or Porter counties mourned the loss of the progressive movement, which, in fact, had never reached the region in the first place" (p. 497). Within each chapter, however, Franklin and Schaeffer offer lively capsule biographies and episodic vignettes. The book's only major organizational failing is that the chronology sometimes seems fractured. Chapter 3, for example, should more logically follow chapter 4. Otherwise, the account is thorough, accurate, and fair-minded, avoiding pejorative judgments even against the likes of Congressman Charles A. Halleck. A section listing important milestones would have been welcome, as would more information on inholders and some commentary on the relationship between the Indiana Dunes State Park and the National Lakeshore, which, the authors succinctly conclude, "exist side by side, separated only by mutual distrust and a barbed wire fence" (p. 3). All in all, the book reinforces the statement of Alfred A. Knopf: "You may frequently win a battle, but you can never win the war. Whenever one threat is put down, another immediately arises: the struggle is endless, and conservationists must always be ready to rally their forces for another fight. Even triumphs carry their own dangers" (p. v).

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Charles A. Beard: An Intellectual Biography. By Ellen Nore. (Carbondale: Southern Illinois University Press, 1983. Pp. xii, 322. Frontispiece, notes, selected bibliography, index. \$24.95.)

Charles A. Beard has influenced Americans in ways that neither he nor his biographers could have anticipated. Let me begin by citing a personal example. In the late 1950s, while I was a student at a liberal arts college in a neighboring state, I found myself on an airplane going from Dayton to my home in New York City following a pre-Christmas basketball tournament in that Ohio city. Seated next to me was an elderly salesman from upstate New York who, to make conversation as the plane pre-

pared to take off, asked me what my major was. When I replied "history, at least for now," he proceeded to fill almost all of the time during our two-hour flight with the most amazing stories of his "favorite historian," one "Charlie" Beard, who had written the most wonderful books on the Constitution, Pearl Harbor, the New Deal, and America in general. Since I was not quite half way through the standard sophomore year American history survey at that time, I had to confess that I was not too familiar with Beard's work, but I left that flight absolutely overwhelmed by the fact that a sixty-year-old salesman could discuss *any* historian's work at such length and in so much detail. The Beardian influence is obvious though it probably has little to do with the major issues of Beard's life as they are so ably discussed by Ellen Nore in this excellent biography.

Nore captures as much of Charles A. Beard's intellectual side as readers are likely to see in print, at least until that time when some scholar decides to devote an entire academic career to a definitive biography. Indeed, as the author points out in her preface, both Charles and Mary Beard thought that people should write about them based on their published work. To insure that approach Charles Beard destroyed most of his letters shortly before his death in 1948 and noted more than once while he lived that he "did not really approve of biography" because "the lives of individuals . . . left out too much" (p. xii). Although Nore feels that she has not "really succeeded in calling Beard back in an immediate way," there does not seem to be as much distance between author and subject as she thinks there is.

From his early years growing up in east central Indiana and his undergraduate days at DePauw, Nore follows Beard's remarkable career, in largely chronological fashion, to Oxford and Columbia universities and, following his resignation from the New York school's faculty in 1917, to his thirty-year career as a "public intellectual," a person whose scholarship was read and discussed far beyond the academic community. At almost every important juncture in this amazing odyssey, Nore carefully analyzes the people and the ideas which influenced Beard and, in turn, the manner in which Beard influenced those around him. In fact, if one were to list the people, academic and nonacademic, who were "significant others" for Charles Beard, the group would be a who-was-who during the years from roughly 1850 to the end of World War II.

As Nore is careful to note, few of the major political, social, and academic problems that America faced in the first half of the twentieth century escaped Beard's searching inquiry. In fact one difficulty that any of his biographers must face is how much at-

tention to devote to such topics as reform, war and peace, the university and its relationship to the larger society, academic freedom, political and business leadership, corporate responsibility, and national and regional planning. Nore meets this problem head on and provides her readers with appropriate balance while, at the same time, going out of her way to give Beard's critics equal time.

Intellectual biography is probably the most difficult type of biography to write since it must focus on life, times, *and* ideas and must strive to make some sense out of the interplay between all three elements. When one adds to these obvious problems a life as complex as Charles Beard's, one might conclude that there are easier paths to follow. Fortunately, Nore chooses the difficult way. As a result she has researched and written a study that may serve as one kind of model in this genre. In addition, her interpretation is an important addition to recent Beardian scholarship, especially as it relates to the traditional "placement" of Beard as one third of the intellectual trinity which includes Vernon L. Parrington and Frederick J. Turner. Perhaps she may now wish to turn to an equally important subject who richly merits an intellectual biography, Robert Lynd. In fact, Nore handles the relationship between Charles and Mary Beard so well that Robert and Helen Lynd should present no problem whatsoever.

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Dark Horse: A Biography of Wendell Willkie. By Steve Neal. (Garden City, N.Y.: Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1984. Pp. ix, 371. Illustrations, bibliographical essay, references, index. \$17.95.)

Wendell Willkie's life forms an incredible tale that is well chronicled in Steve Neal's spirited, engaging biography of the Hoosier-born, Wall Street executive who captured the 1940 Republican nomination for president. As Neal describes him, Willkie was a maverick and free spirit. Among his family in Elwood, Indiana, and as a student at Indiana University, he was a radical. In later years Willkie reflected: "Any man who is not something of a Socialist before . . . forty has no heart. Any man who is still a Socialist after . . . forty has no head" (p. 8). By age forty-one Willkie was president of Commonwealth and Southern, a giant utility holding company. Intellectual ability, a charismatic personality, and luck contributed to his business success and led to his political rise.

Willkie seemed not to have a chance for victory at the 1940 Republican National Convention. A lifelong Wilsonian Democrat,