

leading citizens in business and politics, eventually serving two terms as mayor. Kircher was married in 1880 to Bertha Engelman and had three children. He died on May 1, 1908.

The sixty-four letters reproduced in the book, transcribed from the old German script, reveal an intelligent, ambitious, and perceptive young man who saw a duty to serve his fatherland. In doing so he comes of age through the rigors of the battles and the boredom that challenge him during his thirty-one months of campaigning in the war's western theater. Although the letters add little new information to an understanding of the daily life of the Civil War soldier (except perhaps for the period in late 1862 and early 1863 when the regiment served as sharpshooters on Union gunboats during the Yazoo Pass Expedition), as source material they do touch on a historically neglected view of the ethnic soldier in the Union army. "Contrary to popular belief concerning the war as a melting pot, Kircher's letters help suggest that a sense of separateness remained strong throughout the conflict" (Preface). This latter point is the basic theme of the Hess publication.

Information found in Kircher's diaries helps fill out the gaps in the letters and provides the needed source material for Hess's narrative that serves as a link between each letter. The book is well annotated and contains photographs, maps, and a bibliographical essay. All in all it will be a fine addition to any Civil War library.

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The Saloon: Public Drinking in Chicago and Boston, 1880-1920.
By Perry R. Duis. (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1983.
Pp. 380. Illustrations, maps, comments on primary sources,
notes, index. \$24.95.)

This valuable book rests on prodigious research in obscure sources to give a comprehensive view of the saloon in Chicago and Boston. Perry R. Duis mined local newspapers, scattered manuscript sources, and little-known trade publications produced by branches of the liquor industries. The two cities had very different regulatory policies. Chicago was wide open, with ubiquitous saloons, once reaching a ratio of about one saloon for each 150 persons. Boston used its licensing powers to limit the number of saloons and restricted them to the city's hub. The result was a different pattern within a common theme.

The author explains the saloon as a semipublic institution in urban milieus that were increasingly becoming privatized. Saloons were private businesses, sometimes small and sometimes,

in Chicago, outlets for vertically integrated brewers, which welcomed the public. Saloon customers obtained refuge from the public spaces of the city, there to take comfort, quench thirsts, slake palates, and socialize. As wealth increased, however, Americans sought private spaces—clubs, apartment hotels, suburban homes, and automobiles—for their routine activities, and the semipublic saloon declined, its fate sealed finally by national prohibition in 1919.

This reviewer finds little fault with Duis's research and his view of space in the evolving city; but the author has not carefully evaluated all his sources, and he misunderstands the recent interpretation of the prohibition movement. Duis observes that the reformers who would outlaw the manufacture and sale of liquor were reacting in a way "that had little to do with the evolution of the liquor industry or drinking patterns" (p. 2). But Norman Clark and others have shown that the popularity of prohibition grew in response to a growing rate of alcohol consumption even as beer was replacing spirits in the marketplace. Today's rates of consumption, slightly higher than those of Duis's period, elicit widespread concerns about alcohol misuse; the earlier pattern of consumption elicited prohibition. Thus the author misunderstands the dynamics of the saloon, drinking, and reform responses before World War I. To compound the error, Duis sometimes too uncritically accepts evidence and arguments generated by the liquor industries. Self-serving liquor papers, for instance, do not convince this reader that "respectable" women slipped from husbands' watchful eyes to obtain drink in pharmacies and soda fountains (p. 223).

Nevertheless, Duis advances knowledge of the social history of alcohol. His work promotes a better understanding of the liquor industries, the types of customers and problems encountered, and the varieties of ways in which Americans have used alcohol and responded to its misuse.

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Theirs Be the Power: The Moguls of Eastern Kentucky. By Harry M. Caudill. (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1983. Pp. vi, 189. Map, illustrations, notes, index. \$13.95.)

Since Harry M. Caudill published *Night Comes to the Cumberlandlands* a generation ago, he has not wavered in his indictment of both the corporations that have pillaged his Appalachian homeland and the governments—local, state, and national—that have compounded the problems of the region. In the intervening years