

Baker's introduction gives a useful summary of the current debates about the proper form of folklore studies. It offers an especially good discussion of the role of context and presentation for folk tellers and thus suggests that popular published works, like *Jokelore*, may themselves soon be supplanted by audiovisual collections. All of the items in the volume were collected from Indiana residents, but relatively few entries are set in recognizable Hoosier locations or are, apart from the Kentucky jokes, concerned with distinctive Hoosier traits. The state's special passions for sports and politics receive very little attention. The book is instead a celebration of Indiana's participation in national and international traditions of humor as well as an earthy introduction to modern Indiana folkways.

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Chicago's Pride: The Stockyards, Packingtown, and Environs in the Nineteenth Century. By Louise Carroll Wade. (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1987. Pp. xvi, 423. Notes, maps, essay on sources, illustrations, index. \$32.50.)

In 1906 Upton Sinclair's *The Jungle* electrified the nation with its indictment of Chicago's meat-packing industry. Exposing unsafe and unsanitary working conditions, it contributed to the climate of opinion that demanded passage of federal meat inspection laws. One would expect a book on Packingtown to address the issues raised by Sinclair's novel. This is not, however, the purpose of Louise Carroll Wade's book. Its focus is on how Lake Township, located south of Chicago and west of Hyde Park, was transformed between 1865, when the Union Stockyards was constructed, and 1888, when it was annexed by Chicago.

While *Chicago's Pride* contains informative chapters on the rise of the livestock trade and its connection to the meat-packing industry, Wade's depiction of packingtown barons as hard-working, civic-minded industrial statesmen seems overly flattering. "Creative, productive labor, not the acquisition of dollars, was their goal and their measurement of their own success," she claims (p. 220). On the other hand, labor leaders come off, for the most part, as myopic, while rural critics are disparaged as "jealous hayseeds" (p. 92). Claiming that industry leaders were concerned about prevention of cruelty to animals, Wade writes, "Livestock crossed the northern plains in greater style than ordinary passengers" (p. 191). In line with the booster slogan that she has chosen for her title, Wade argues that the hundreds of thousands of yearly tourists regarded Packingtown as an eighth wonder of the world.

It was John Stephen Wright who first predicted that the day would come when no part of the animal would be wasted. While Wade's research is prodigious in showing the tremendous techno-

logical changes that made this prophecy a reality, there is little examination of how modernization affected labor conditions. Wade notes that workers chafed at the ten-hour day and periodic layoffs and wage cuts; but she claims that, compared to other industrial workers, their earnings and job security were good.

Wade's central thesis is developed in a section called "Forging a Community." Discussing the neighborhoods, voluntary organizations, and political coalitions that comprised the Packingtown environs, she argues that a variety of ethnic, fraternal, and religious organizations provided the "social anchors" for the township's "wonderful growth." If this assertion is valid, then Wade does not adequately explain why a majority of voters endorsed annexation in the 1888 plebiscite.

The analytical weaknesses of *Chicago's Pride* do not negate the fact that Wade has produced a first-rate piece of research. Perhaps the best quotation is from a brief section dealing with working conditions for women. Chicago reporter Nell Nelson took a job in an Armour cannery and discovered that the only place she could sit down to eat her lunch was on a windowsill. She wrote that it was "certainly very good of Mr. Armour to build Sunday-schools, educate struggling artists, buy pictures, and patronize music," but "a clean sitting-room . . . and chairs in which to rest at noon . . . would not be wasted charity" (p. 229).

To some, Packingtown may have been "Chicago's Pride." To many others, at least after publication of *The Jungle*, it would symbolize Chicago's shame.

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A Kentucky Album: Farm Security Administration Photographs, 1935-1943. Edited by Beverly W. Brannan and David Horvath. (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1986. Pp. xi, 148. Illustrations, bibliography. \$25.00.)

During the 1930s photography came of age in the United States. Photographs became the dominant form of expression in advertising; in 1932 a Gallup survey of four thousand readers ranked photographs more effective than other forms of illustration. Two popular journals based on a pictorial approach to news reporting, *Life* and *Look*, were founded. In Washington, D. C., a small federal agency was created to document programs dealing with the plight of the rural poor. Headed by Roy E. Stryker, a social scientist from Columbia University, this Historical Section of the Farm Security Administration produced the best pictorial record ever assembled. Covering virtually all aspects of American life, the FSA Collection at the Library of Congress includes approximately one hundred thousand captioned prints.