of historical thought. History, he says, "is to be taken in no narrow sense. It is more than past literature, more than past politics, more than past economics. It is the self-consciousness of humanity—humanity's effort to understand itself through the study of its past" (p. 61).

It perhaps would have been more logical to have placed Turner's two articles in chronological order, but that is a minor point. This book will be of value to anyone interested in the study of American history.

George Rogers Clark National Historical Park, Vincennes, Ind. Robert J. Holden

Redeeming the Time: A People's History of the 1920s and the New Deal. By Page Smith. (New York: McGraw-Hill Book Company, 1987. Pp. xiii, 1205. Illustrations, index. $34.95.)

This is the eighth and final volume of Page Smith's *A People's History of the United States*, published over the past ten years. This volume tells the story of the tumultuous period 1922 to 1941, beginning with the flamboyant Roaring Twenties, which sets the stage for the devastating depression that shook the very foundation of the Republic. The author could not resist, however, the urge "at least to sketch in the interval between the entry of the United States into World War II and the present day," which comprises the volume's final fifty pages. This work is so exhaustive that an adequate review within normal space limitations is impossible.

The presidency of Franklin Delano Roosevelt is covered in depth. He is portrayed as the dominant figure of the 1930s, whose New Deal gave hope and purpose to the nation, preparing it to assist the Allies in their 1939–1940 fight against the fascism of the Axis powers. The author goes so far as to call FDR "our ablest and most visionary president," a judgment which is, of course, clearly subject to challenge.

A major theme of the work is that "The history of the United States can be seen as a prolonged contest between the value of community and the code of individualism." The author obviously is a proponent of the values of community. And he has a definite left-of-center viewpoint. Much of his discussion of communism, for example, both Russian and American style, is not unfavorable in tone. Smith states that "considering the requirements of the times and the contingent character of all human enterprises, the various denominations of communists served their country well." The penultimate chapter is significantly entitled "Postwar America: Suppressing the Left"—clear proof of the author's sympathies.

Smith's history-writing is unusual in that he provides neither footnote references nor bibliography; yet, he is able to recite numerous minute factual details and direct quotations in a well-or-

ganized way. All in all, this massive work is a sweeping, panoramic view of two of the most engrossing decades in our history.

Indianapolis, Ind. Lester M. Ponder

A History of Missouri: Volume V, *1919–1953*. By Richard S. Kirkendall. (Columbia: University of Missouri Press, 1986. Pp. viii, 438. Essay on sources, index. $28.00.)

Few state histories venture far beyond the turn of the twentieth century. Historians, whether dilettantes or professionally trained, far too often focus on the frontier period or emphasize early territorial, economic, and political developments. This pattern is particularly true for the state histories in the trans–Mississippi West. Indeed, while the twentieth century is nearly over, few historians have written book-length studies about their respective states for this period. In Missouri, however, the story is different. Two major studies that deal with the twentieth century have appeared within the past year. The first, David A. Thelen's *Paths of Resistance: Tradition and Dignity in Industrializing Missouri*, analyzes the state during the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries. The second is Richard A. Kirkendall's volume in the Missouri sesquicentennial series. It covers much of the midtwentieth century. Both prove that state history, broadly written and interpreted, is a legitimate area for scholarly research. Moreover, it also is a field of study that has a large audience of general readers.

Richard S. Kirkendall, Henry A. Wallace Professor of History at Iowa State University, has written a wide-ranging book on the history of Missouri from the end of World War I through the Truman administration. Kirkendall stresses the significance of economic change in shaping the history of the state. In many respects, he sees Missouri as a have-not state because poor lands in the Ozark Plateau, insufficient natural resources, and inadequate technological adjustment have kept it relatively poor. Economics, however, is not Kirkendall's only focus. He traces the major political issues that have influenced Missouri's course through much of the twentieth century, and he evaluates social change in the "Show-Me" state. Kirkendall uses the life of native son Harry Truman as a focal point around which to craft his narrative, always relating the events in Missouri to those of the nation as a whole. The result is a detailed state history that is integrated into a broader, national history.

Kirkendall's study is heavily statistical, and it is not light reading. He is most interpretative and the narrative most engaging from the period of the Great Depression to midcentury. Overall, however, Kirkendall has provided a solidly researched and thoroughly written history of Missouri from 1919 to 1953. It will provide an excellent reference for the study of the economic and