work of two of the leading American regional geographers, D. W. Meinig and Peirce Lewis; and although the name of a third major regionalist, Wilbur Zelinsky, appears in the bibliography, Zelinsky's interpretation is not evident in the text. For example, the mid-twentieth-century American regions depicted on page 49 are urban hinterlands, a functional, not a historical, definition. Perhaps Bradshaw has given short shrift to the literature in historical geography because of its primarily cultural emphasis whereas Bradshaw believes mainly in economic regionalization: "the most important socio-economic differences between regions are those which are based on inequalities which emerge between groups of people and so between the regions in which they live" (p. 60).

Bradshaw also provides case studies of regions—Frostbelt versus Sunbelt, East versus West, the Tennessee Valley, and Appalachia among others—distinctive with regard to economic base, degree of affluence, and economic problems. Again, cultural distinctions are not considered. One wonders about the usefulness of public policy decisions made by planners with little appreciation of regional culture.

Michael Steiner and Clarence Mondale have written a very different and much richer book on American regionalism. Their work provides an annotated bibliography of the literature on American regionalism from many disciplines, including anthropology, economics, geography, history, literature, political science, and sociology. The section on geography is divided into "Region as Concept," "Perception Studies," "Landscape and Settlement," and "Distributional Studies." The section on history includes units on "Frontier and Landscape" and "Family and Community Studies." This source book is an indispensable resource for anyone seriously interested in the geographical complexity of American society. It is surprising, however, that Robert S. and Helen M. Lynd's *Middle-town* and James West's *Plainville, U.S.A.* were not included under sociology. Although these communities might appear to be typically American and not regional, in fact they are quintessentially midwestern.

BRUCE BIGELOW is associate professor of geography, Butler University, Indianapolis. He has published articles on the historical geography of the Presbyterians and Disciples of Christ in antebellum Indiana.


Following his best-selling *From Sea to Shining Sea* (1984), James Alexander Thom turns his attention to the other side of the frontier in a novel based on the life of the Shawnee chief Tecumseh. Thom reconstructs a dramatic story, tries to tell it from the
Born under the sign of a shooting star in 1768, Tecumseh grew up in turbulent times. His father died at the Battle of Point Pleasant in 1774; the Shawnee chief Cornstalk was murdered in 1777; the Shawnee nation split in 1779 when many Shawnees migrated from Ohio to Missouri; and one American army after another marched into Shawnee country to burn villages and destroy crops. The warriors inflicted some crushing defeats on invading armies; but following their defeat at Fallen Timbers in 1794, Indian leaders ceded the bulk of Ohio at the Treaty of Greenville.

Tecumseh became a magnet for younger warriors who wished to continue the fight. While the messianic preaching of his brother, the Prophet—a reformed drunkard known as the Open Door—produced a religious movement among the tribes, Tecumseh welded together a remarkable multitribal confederation. Thom conveys the growing tension between Indians and whites by focusing on the confrontation between the protagonists, Tecumseh and his nemesis, Governor William Henry Harrison of Indiana Territory. Harrison failed to break the confederacy at the Battle of Tippecanoe in 1811, but Tecumseh's death at the Battle of the Thames in 1813 shattered Indian hopes of halting American expansion east of the Mississippi.

Historical novels with their imagined incidents, stilted dialogue, and uncomplicated characters often trivialize rather than breathe life into the stories they attempt to dramatize. This is especially the case when novelists try their hands at Indian subjects. Panther in the Sky shares some of the shortcomings of the genre. There are occasional inaccuracies, and the rather stereotypical portrayal of the Prophet as a deformed buffoon does little to explain his influence. The romantic interest between Tecumseh and Rebecca Galloway is weak because it is fiction not history. The narrative is strongest where the historical record is rich and the author has less need to resort to invention.

Thom naturally portrays his hero as larger than life, but Tecumseh was a charismatic leader and a remarkable individual who impressed even his enemies. Historians and ethnologists will find things to criticize here, but this novel finally gives an Indian leader his place in popular literature as a major figure in the history of Indiana and of the United States.

A British citizen, Colin G. Calloway teaches Indian history at the University of Wyoming, Laramie. His publications include Crown and Calumet: British-Indian Relations, 1783–1815 (1987); The Abenaki (1989); and The Western Abenakis of Vermont, 1600–1800: War, Migration, and the Survival of an Indian People (1990). He is currently doing research on Indian experiences during the American Revolution.