

tions of the Missouri area in the late seventeenth century to Missouri's admission to the union in 1820.

When someone writes a second book on a topic, the obvious question is whether the new book is substantially the same book as the first one, or whether significant new research and thinking have made the latter book a different one. In this case, the answer depends on the part of the book being considered. Most of the new work in this volume deals with the economy and society of early Missouri, especially during the French and Spanish periods. The author has done an excellent job of incorporating recent research by social historians and anthropologists to present a richly detailed picture of the lives of the French, Indians, blacks, and American settlers in the state. His treatment of the commercial relations between the French traders and the Osage and other western Indians is especially good, illuminating the Indian perspective as well as the French.

The only weakness in the handling of the French period is the absence of any discussion of the broader French community in the Upper Mississippi Valley. Because the French in Missouri maintained extensive commercial and social ties with the settlements in Illinois and Vincennes, some discussion of this larger community would seem to have been in order even if it meant going beyond the political boundaries of Missouri.

In contrast to the sections on Missouri social history, the sections on territorial politics, occupying most of the latter half of the book, cover much the same ground as the 1971 book. In fact, a substantial amount was taken straight from the earlier book with only minor additions and word changes.

Nonetheless, this volume is clearly much more than just an updated edition of Foley's earlier work, and it must be regarded as the starting point for anyone interested in the early history of Missouri. Its scholarship is sound, its writing style is engaging, and its illustrations and maps are abundant, a combination of traits not always present in state histories.

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*Ohio and Its People.* By George W. Knepper. (Kent, Ohio: Kent State University Press, 1989. Pp. xi, 508. Maps, illustrations, appendixes, tables, bibliography, index. Clothbound, \$32.00; paperbound, \$17.50.)

Producing a single-volume narrative history of any American state, particularly one as old and economically and demographically diverse as Ohio, is a formidable undertaking fraught with questions of inclusivity, balance, cohesion, and readability. *Ohio*



KU KLUX KLAN PARADE, SPRINGFIELD, OHIO, SEPTEMBER 8, 1923

Courtesy Kent State University Press, Kent, Ohio.



OHIO SUFFRAGETTES

Courtesy Kent State University Press, Kent, Ohio.

*and Its People*, by George W. Knepper, comes very close to being a model effort in this area.

Knepper's volume is the first significant single-volume history of the state to be produced since James Rodabaugh updated Eugene Roseboom's and Francis P. Weisenburger's *A History of Ohio* in 1967. With the last multivolume history (*History of the State of Ohio*, edited by Carl Wittke) dating from the early 1940s, readers in Ohio were in need of something new. The book is, indeed, a most appropriate successor, not merely because it fills such a great chronological void, but because it carries off its task with a good deal of thought and style. The volume is extraordinarily readable, aided by its division into seventeen chronological/topical chapters and by the use within those chapters of numerous thematic subsections. These subsections are used to great interpretive advantage. For example, Knepper deals with four of Ohio's nineteenth-century "contributions" to the American presidency in a single section. The comparative discussion of Rutherford B. Hayes, James A. Garfield, William Henry Harrison, and William McKinley is tightly written and rich in analysis. What could have been a long, tedious narrative history is avoided by devices such as these and by the author's excellent prose.

The cohesion and readability of the book are matched, in part, by its inclusivity. *Ohio and Its People* deals with a variety of issues ranging from the economic conditions of the frontier state to the impact of sports and leisure activities in the late twentieth cen-

ture. True to its title, the volume does deal with the people of the state, providing information on everyone from Native Americans to the migrants and immigrants in the state's major cities. In a state comprised of farms and factories, and urban Democrats and rural Republicans, it is not easy to be inclusive, but Knepper nevertheless manages to handle adeptly a number of diverse issues.

It is, however, the balance in dealing with these issues that causes problems. Urban historians may be pleased that the volume discusses a variety of "city" issues but will be troubled because more attention seems to be devoted to exploration, early settlement, and frontier life. Over half (263 pages) of the volume covers the state's history to the end of the Civil War while the era of great urban growth receives less attention. Telescoping the enormous economic changes and demographic variety of post-Civil War Ohio into so little space creates problems. Consequently, readers will find the longer discussions of frontier life and military campaigns more satisfying than the more "packed" discussions of twentieth-century urban migrants and immigrants (treated in a quick four-page section).

This, however, is a minor caveat, and the excellent selective bibliography can be used to uncover additional details about any subject treated in the volume. Moreover, the style and structure of the book override any perceived imbalance and "Knepper" justly deserves its quickly acquired position as the state's new history.

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*Logs and Lumber: The Development of the Lumber Industry in Michigan's Lower Peninsula, 1837-1870.* By Barbara E. Benson. (Mount Pleasant: Clarke Historical Library, Central Michigan University, 1989. Pp. xv, 309. Maps, illustrations, tables, notes, bibliography. \$25.00.)

The lumber industry of Michigan, no less dramatic or interesting than that of Minnesota and Wisconsin, has long awaited its historian. Barbara E. Benson has pieced together the story of its early growth from the pioneer days until 1870, by which time it had become the leading lumber manufacturing center in the United States. Focusing on the three stages of activity—logging, milling, and marketing—she also looks at the resource base, initial settlement, work force, and lumber entrepreneurs. Using a variety of primary sources, including family and business papers, manuscript and printed census records, credit rating reports and newspapers, and local and lumber history monographs and articles along with those colorful biographical and county histories written