her husband's newspaper. She discussed local events, but she also reflected on the meaning of her life, offering the viewpoint of a plain country woman who enjoyed being a homemaker and rearing her family. This continued to be her theme throughout her writing career.

In 1903 the "Country Contributor" column began to appear in the Indianapolis *News* and was immediately successful. In 1905, Edward Bok, editor of the *Ladies Home Journal*, asked her to write a regular column. A little over a year later he declared hers to be one of the most successful features the *Journal* had published. In 1908 her columns from the *Journal* appeared as a book.

In 1915, when she was at the height of her powers as a popular lecturer, author, and columnist, she became passionately interested in saving a large tract of virgin woodland where she had played as a child. Strauss contacted many people to try to avert the sale of the land to timber buyers. She was able to interest Indiana Governor Samuel Ralston, Richard Lieber, and many others, and together they persuaded the state to conserve the acreage as the Turkey Run State Park, as part of Indiana's centennial celebration.

After Strauss's death in 1918, the Women's Press Club coordinated donations for a memorial in Turkey Run State Park, and in 1922 a statue by Indianapolis sculptor Myra Richards was dedicated to Strauss's memory.

Juliet Strauss's writings were enormously popular in her time. To modern ears, her exhortations on the duty of a woman to serve her family's needs in the home and to sacrifice any ambitions of her own may seem outdated, but her appreciation of the value of the simple life, devoid of artifice, rings as true as ever. Raised in a small Hoosier community she never left, she preached to a national audience the values she had learned there. Hard work, self-sufficiency, kindness, love of family, and acceptance of one's lot in life were the virtues she recommended to others and practiced in her own life.

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Atlas of Kentucky. Edited by Richard Ulack, Karl Raitz, and Gyula Pauer. (Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1998. Pp. xii, 316. Illustrations, maps, figures, tables, selected bibliography, index. $39.95.)

All citizens in Ohio, Indiana, and Illinois—especially those who are geographers, historians, state officials, and philanthropists—should note that their Ohio River neighbor, Kentucky, has produced a splendid prototype for a state reference book. This new *Atlas of Kentucky*, like its predecessor in 1977, is published in a reader-friendly rectangular shape (10 inches "north-south" by 14 inches "east-

west") that is optimal for state maps. This magnificently illustrated atlas, published at a remarkably reasonable price, will attract readers from teenage to old age, especially if they live in, travel in, or have roots in Kentucky.

The atlas is a cooperative effort by university departments and state agencies, spearheaded by editors from the geography department at the University of Kentucky. Editor-in-chief Richard Ulack has worked closely with coeditor Karl Raitz and cartographic editor Gyula Pauer, both of whom helped produce the 1977 *Atlas of Kentucky*. Five other major participants in the new atlas are identified on the title page, and twenty-four additional contributors are listed on page vi.

An astonishing variety of maps, statistical graphs, and photographs are carefully integrated with essays to make this atlas far more than a collection of maps; it is a well-balanced geographic synthesis of Kentucky landscape and life. More than 600 color maps appear in five different scales, each of which can be viewed with plastic overlays (in pocket) showing county boundaries and names. The thirteen chapters and the frontispiece feature superb oblique air photos in natural color, all of them (as well as some thirty others) taken by Keith Mountain, a geographer at the University of Louisville. Most of the ground level photos—at least fifty—were contributed by coeditor Raitz, an astute observer of landscapes for more than thirty years.

While the *Atlas of Kentucky*'s point-of-view is geography rather than history, it not only tells what the place called Kentucky is like but also explains its significance in relation to its surroundings—regional, national, world. Good geographic description of the spatial dimension is explained within the temporal or historical dimension. Chapter 1, "Kentucky: Its Setting," recognizes the importance of the past as does chapter 2, "The Natural Environment." The thirty-two pages in chapter 3, "Historical and Cultural Landscapes," offer an impressive array of illustrations depicting the human occupance and modification of the Kentucky landscape.

Following the three-chapter overview are ten thematic chapters, each prepared by scholars with special expertise. Organized in an almost sequential pattern, the chapter topics include: "Population"; "Social and Economic Characteristics"; "Mineral, Energy, and Timber Resources"; "The Agricultural Landscapes"; "Manufacturing"; "Transportation and Communications"; "Tourism and Recreation"; "The Political Landscape"; "The Urban Landscape"; and "Kentucky in the Future."

At least twenty comprehensive state atlases planned and edited by geographers were published in the 1970s and 1980s, while during the last decade three have appeared: Arkansas (1989), Pennsylvania (1989), and Florida (1992). More attempts have been made during

the past fifty years in Ohio and Illinois than in Indiana to publish cartographic portraits of state history and geography. Yet the three oldest states in the Northwest Territory have yet to produce a fully-integrated geographical or thematic atlas. In 1970 the much underfunded *Atlas of Indiana* appeared as a small softbound volume featuring early computer maps by the late Robert C. Kingsbury of Indiana University.

One hopes that geographers and historians in Indiana as well as in Ohio and Illinois are already engaged in preparing state atlases for the twenty-first century. If so, they may be hard pressed to match *The Atlas of Kentucky*.

JOHN V. BERGEN, professor emeritus of geography at Western Illinois University, grew up in Ohio and received his doctorate from Indiana University. He is author-editor of *The Atlas of Johnson County, Indiana: 1820 to 1900* (1983).

The Wisconsin Frontier. By Mark Wyman. (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1998. Pp. xviii, 336. Illustrations, maps, essay on sources, index. $29.95.)

The editors of the series in which *The Wisconsin Frontier* is published claim that "you will find this history informative and lively," (p. xiii) and that it certainly is. Mark Wyman begins with the voyages of John Cabot, Giovanni da Verrazano and Jacques Cartier along the Atlantic seaboard and the St. Lawrence River. After a chapter on Indian life before contact with Europeans, he traces the growth of the fur trade between the French and Indian peoples, the international competition for Wisconsin resources, and the changes produced by American control of the region after the War of 1812. The history is not only a diplomatic study of competing interests but also a study of the social, cultural, and environmental changes over three centuries of settlement.

In a concluding chapter, fittingly entitled "Legacies," Wyman evaluates the environmental costs of exploiting the area of Wisconsin for profits. Here he also considers Wisconsin's frontier from the perspectives of the writer Hamlin Garland and the historian Frederick Jackson Turner. Although both wrote to correct eastern notions, they perceived society and life on the frontier differently. Garland, a writer of the realist school, presented a frontier complete with all its wrinkles, warts, and misery. Turner, a Progressive, took an expansive view of the frontier story, applauding the economic growth and progress of the region as it passed from wilderness to civilization. Wyman also includes Indian people in his account of the post-frontier period. He records their names for geographical features as well as their participation in the cultural exchanges in the "middle ground" where the races met.