

consciousness." Ellis astutely points out that "Loving appears to have some small, but tangible effect on both of his audiences" (p. 119).

Of particular significance for persons interested in Indiana history is Ellis's sketch of Madame C. J. Walker's International League of Darker Peoples that, because of its embrace of Japanese radicals, came under surveillance and later failed to affect the Paris Peace Conference.

In short, Ellis has given us a thorough, judicious work that all serious students of United States history in the twentieth-century should read.

VERNON J. WILLIAMS, JR., is professor of history and American studies at Purdue University, West Lafayette, Indiana. He is author of *Rethinking Race* (1996) and *From a Caste to a Minority* (1989), as well as a member of the editorial boards of *Transforming Anthropology* and *The Western Journal of Black Studies*.

*Sojourner in the Promised Land: Forty Years Among the Mormons.*

By Jan Shipps. (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 2000. Pp. xiii, 400. Notes, tables, figures, index. \$34.95.)

To those who follow religion in America, Jan Shipps is perhaps the best-known non-Mormon historian of and commentator on the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Shipps has "sojournered" among the Mormons literally, intellectually, and spiritually for the past forty years. As a consequence, her remarks have a ring of truth that has long resonated with readers both inside and outside the faith. This book offers a cornucopia of observations and insights in nearly twenty essays culled from previously published classics as well as heretofore unpublished gems. It is the harvest of a long and fruitful career. Not surprisingly, this volume won the annual "Best Book" award from the Mormon History Association.

The book considers a delightful array of topics on both historical and contemporary Mormonism. Shipps's writing style is accessible and engaging, all the more so in this volume because of the conscious insertion of autobiographical material as she reflects on her experiences. One does not have to be a university professor to enjoy this book. The nonspecialist simply curious about the religion of the clean-cut and pleasant young Mormon missionaries who pass through our neighborhoods will learn much by reading *Sojourner in the Promised Land*. The chapter "Is Mormonism Christian? Reflections on a Complicated Question" (pp. 335-57) alone is worth the price of the volume. Similarly helpful is "Joseph Smith and the Creation of Mormon Theology" (pp. 289-301), which was hammered out on the anvil of Shipps's public communication experience as she attempted to "get all the basic information across without creating confusion and misunderstanding" (p. 283). In the same useful cate-

gory to readers hoping to get an introductory handle on the Latter-day Saint experience is her "Capsule Bibliography of Mormonism" (pp. 164-69).

Of likely interest to both academics and generalists will be the first section in the book, which contains her seminal studies of how Americans over the years have perceived the Mormons as well as how the Latter-day Saints themselves have viewed those outside their church. Readers interested in the art and challenge of writing history, especially religious history, will find numerous sage observations in *Sojourner*.

The glass, of course, is never completely full. No book is without its flaws. To be sure, as a historian of Mormonism, I had my quibbles with some of Shipps's interpretations. Yet, when the glass is 90 percent full, and especially in the compass of a short review like this, it seems petty to focus on them. *Sojourner* is written by someone at the top of her game. It exudes excellence and deserves a careful read.

GRANT UNDERWOOD is professor of history at Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah. In addition to many articles on Mormon history, he is the author of *The Millenarian World of Early Mormonism* (1994) and *Voyages of Faith: Explorations in Pacific Mormon History* (2000).