

section has a scope and content note that outlines the series within the collection—and in the case of the Weinberg Collection and the Gardner Glass Plate Negative there is a historical and/or biographical sketch as well. Entries in the first three sections are arranged alphabetically by title. The final section, Lincoln-Related Manuscripts, is a chronologically arranged finding aid with a brief introductory note.

There are inconsistencies in the catalog entries—similar materials are given slightly different titles than separate items that should be listed together. The illustrations for the Smith Collection are identified first by the collection/item number and secondly by title, but the entries are arranged alphabetically by title and the identification numbers within each series are not sequential. This creates a bit of confusion when

matching the illustration with its entry. The small variances of presentation between sections mar the cohesiveness of the book, but do not hinder its use or hamper the conveyance of information.

Overall, *Abraham Lincoln Portrayed in the Collections of the Indiana Historical Society* is a beautifully produced book suitable for coffee-table display with its 150 color and grayscale images. As a research tool, it provides access to the society's Abraham Lincoln collections in the same spirit of collector Jack Smith, who "acquired not only to own, but also to share" (p. viii).

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He Almost Changed the World
The Life and Times of Thomas Riley Marshall

By David J. Bennett

(Bloomington, Ind.: Authorhouse, 2007. Pp. xiii, 323. Bibliography, endnotes. Paperbound, \$19.95.)

Thomas Riley Marshall (1854-1925), the 28th U.S. vice president and the fourth of five from Indiana, has been largely ignored by biographers. David Bennett deserves credit for following Marshall's life from cradle to grave, but his book is disappointing in several respects.

First, the thesis suggested by Bennett's title—that Marshall "almost changed the world"—is not substantiated by the evidence nor is it the actual premise of the book. Marshall did serve two full terms as Woodrow Wilson's vice president from 1913 to 1921, and he was the first vice

president elected to consecutive terms since John C. Calhoun (1825-1832) as well as the first since Daniel Tompkins (1817-1825) to do so with the same president. Yet Marshall's vice-presidential activities came nowhere close to having the impact Bennett suggests.

To be sure, Marshall's tenure was unique in that for much of its last two years he served as vice president to a disabled leader. Wilson, who suffered one or more strokes in September and October of 1919, saw few political figures and handled little business for the remainder of his term, relying instead on his wife to shield him from the problems his administration faced. Wilson's inner circle kept even Marshall at bay during this time and did not ask him to shoulder substantive responsibilities. Marshall himself took no action to assert presidential authority, a step he viewed as unseemly in part because the Constitution made no provision for temporary transfer of power. In short, Marshall never came close to assuming powers during Wilson's disability. He spent his two terms presiding over the Senate, giving speeches in support of administration programs and Democratic candidates, and handling ceremonial chores. Nothing in his service supports the near-historic role that Bennett's title proclaims.

The author also fails to probe very deeply in his quest to discover and present Marshall; barely more than a handful of the 367 endnotes rely on the Marshall papers or other

archives. More than 100 citations come from Marshall's autobiography, and almost that many refer to John E. Brown's 1970 doctoral dissertation, "Woodrow Wilson's Vice President: Thomas R. Marshall and the Wilson Administration, 1913-1920."

A more scholarly treatment of Marshall's life, in the tradition of Brown's dissertation, would not only help us to see Marshall's life more clearly, but would also contribute to our general knowledge of the vice presidency, a feeble political position for most of our history. Like most early twentieth-century vice presidents, Marshall was nominated through political deal making—not chosen by the presidential nominee—and he had little contact with, or influence on, the Executive Branch.

Rather than subjecting either such political issues or Marshall's life to greater scrutiny, however, Bennett devotes considerable space to describing other important events that occurred in Marshall's time. He spends a page or more on a wide range of people and events—including Henry Ford, the Wright brothers, Einstein, the building of the Panama Canal, and the rise of Hitler—most of which had a tangential relationship, if any, to Marshall.

Marshall's career does deserve serious historical attention. He spoke frequently on public issues, and while few vice presidents had a better sense of humor, his talks were not always well-received. Still, his role as a public spokesman may have heralded the

oratorical work that has occupied many of his modern-day successors. His predicament during the period of Wilson's disability remains instructive, as well. The 1967 ratification of Indiana Senator Birch Bayh's Twenty-fifth Amendment, along with the greatly enhanced role of contemporary vice presidents, makes a repeat of the governmental breakdown that surrounded the Wilson disability less likely. Yet Marshall's experience

reminds us of the ways in which tensions that develop between a vice president and the first spouse and/or chief of staff may interfere with an appropriate transfer of power. The definitive biography of this "fascinating life" remains to be written.

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Chicagoland
City and Suburbs in the Railroad Age
 By Ann Durkin Keating

(Chicago: University of Chicago Press, 2005. Pp. 262. Maps, illustrations, appendix, notes, index. \$25.00.)

In *Chicagoland*, Ann Durkin Keating rejects the traditional focus on the central city long associated with the model of concentric zones. Instead, she focuses upon the effects of the nineteenth-century railroads that radiated across the metropolitan region and connected the 233 settlements that comprised Chicagoland. Her account identifies the features common across the metropolitan landscape and thus provides compelling reasons for residents to embrace a larger and more inclusive concept of their region. During the nineteenth century, each division of the metropolitan region—north, west, and south—developed industrial, agricultural, residential, recreational, and institutional components, although they did so in different con-

centrations and mixtures. In chapters devoted to each category, Keating describes the settlements and the developmental patterns that resulted from a logic that crossed city and suburban lines. Her work encourages readers to recognize that the patterns inherent in local understanding of place are in fact present across the metropolitan region.

Keating accomplishes this task by blending a clear and a concise narrative with visual evidence provided by hundreds of skillfully chosen images and first-rate maps—many of which were drawn specifically for this book. These images are not the standard fare that historians have employed repeatedly to decorate their texts about Chicagoland. Keating knows the metropolitan region as