

## Book Reviews

*The Catholic Church in the Diocese of Vincennes, 1847-1877.*  
By Sister Mary Carol Schroeder. (Volume XXXV in the Catholic University of America *Studies in American Church History*. The Catholic University of America Press, Washington, D.C., 1946, pp. ix, 227. Bibliography and Index.)

Sister Schroeder's volume sets out "to trace the progress of Catholicism in the Diocese of Vincennes during the episcopacies of John Stephen Bazin (October 1847-April 1848) and of Maurice de St. Palais (1849-1877). In treating the era prior to the erection of the Diocese of Fort Wayne in 1857, development throughout the whole of Indiana is considered since the diocese was coextensive with the state; but in studying the period following that event attention is confined to the southern part. Phrases of economic and social movements affecting religious development are noted." The quotation is appropriate to the content of the book.

Vincennes, the initial Catholic see in Indiana, was still a missionary diocese, "depending upon financial contributions of European mission societies and friends of the clergy . . ." for support, when Father Bazin became its bishop. Priests and other religious leaders were almost exclusively European-born, mainly French, but the laity was principally German. The diocese lacked the formal ecclesiastical government and discipline often found in established sees. It was deeply attached to its European moorings which lingered longer than for Indiana Protestant groups whose origin represented a break with European tradition.

The three decades from 1847-1877 were a period of substantial growth and expansion within the diocese. These decades brought German clergy to the leadership of the diocese, the expansion and development of educational activities, the growth of the church in urban centers and at Indianapolis in particular, a marked increase in diocesan membership and personnel and a more formal government structure. By 1877 European influences had been weakened and a spirit of American Catholicism was in evidence. This study, a doctoral dissertation at The Catholic University of America, reflects extensive research in Catholic sources including the University of Notre Dame Archives. A knowledge of diocesan corre-

spondence regarding trends and problems is reflected in the discussion of administrative matters, parochial needs, educational programs, Civil War attitudes, and post-war developments.

When the author connects Catholic developments with the general currents in Indiana, the result is less satisfactory. The influence of railroads in diverting trade to the East is probably overstressed and the bibliography is minus the study of this question by Albert L. Kohlmeier in his *The Old Northwest . . .* (Bloomington, Indiana, 1938). Southern Indiana was a Democratic stronghold during the Civil War and had been a generation, however, there was solid and strong Union sentiment among those who followed the Jacksonian tradition. The Know-Nothing movement in Indiana was certainly guilty of prejudice and excesses as indicated, yet this movement would not have gained the strength which it did had it not been in part the result of the attitude and policy of some Catholics regarding public schools, to cite but one issue. The attachment to European moorings so apparent in pioneer Catholicism sheds further light on the background of the Know-Nothing movement. There are a few minor slips such as that citing James Whitcomb as governor during 1844-1848 (pp. 32, 126). Whitcomb was elected in 1843 and re-elected in 1846 but resigned in 1848. Chapter V gives scant attention to efforts to improve education before 1846.

This volume is a desirable and useful contribution to the history of religion in Indiana. It is regretted that other religious groups are generally not doing an equal amount to preserve and write their history. No history of this or any other state can be complete without devoting considerable attention to the development and influence of religious thought and life.

Donald F. Carmony

*Theodore Roosevelt and the Progressive Movement.* By George E. Mowry. (University of Wisconsin Press, Madison, Wisconsin, 1946, pp. viii, 405. Bibliography and Index. \$4.00.)

This study constitutes neither a comprehensive biography of the first Roosevelt nor a history of the Progressive Movement. Rather, it attempts to delineate the assistance rendered the progressive cause by Roosevelt and to judge whether that