

accident might easily have a fatal termination, unless help were near.

The last story concerns saving a large pine tree from the lumberman's ax. It was based on the difficulty of running section lines through woods country, especially after a forest fire had swept away the witness trees. Just in the nick of time it was discovered that the tree stood a few feet over the line, and the tree was spared.

Although these tales have slight value as literature, they do present authentic pictures of the logging industry. The editor is to be congratulated for making them available to a wider public than the readers of magazines of yesteryear.

University of Minnesota

Rodney C. Loehr

The Story of Illinois. By Theodore Calvin Pease. (Chicago, The University of Chicago Press, 1949, xviii, 284. Maps, illustrations, and index. \$5.00.)

In celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of the Illinois Historical Society, members of the organization decided to publish a revision of Professor Pease's *The Story of Illinois* which was first issued in 1925. The death of Professor Pease on August 11, 1948, came in the midst of his task of revision. The chapters on the French and British periods had been rewritten in line with his own important research and publications. The remainder of the work of preparing the manuscript for publication was undertaken by Mrs. Pease.

The volume is an excellent, brief, and interesting history of the state of Illinois. No one would question that it would have been a better book if the author had lived to finish it, but Mrs. Pease and the Society are to be congratulated upon the completion of the work. It is a valuable volume for the citizens and students of Illinois and surrounding states.

The chief defect is the lack of bibliography and suggested readings. The footnotes which are very few, do not solve this problem. Illinois is fortunate in having its *Centennial History* in five volumes which Professor Pease helped to produce thirty years ago, but students should be directed to some of the original writings and documents of the state's history.

Like most histories of American states, there is much more emphasis on the early period than on the recent. In this instance, Professor Pease's own research in the French and

British period makes the early portion the more significant. His treatment of the remainder of the story, however, is quite stimulating. The narrative is unusually interesting for so brief an account.

There are relatively few errors of fact or slips of proof-reading. The opinion of pioneer newspapers which appears on pages 97-98 seems too severe, although most of the detailed criticisms are accurate.

Indiana University

John D. Barnhart

This is Illinois: A Pictorial History. By Jay Monaghan. Chicago, The University of Chicago Press, 1949, pp. vi, 211. \$5.00.)

There has been considerable interest in pictorial histories in recent years and this one by the state historian of Illinois is an excellent addition to the growing list. Covering the history of the state from the time of the mound builders to the present, the work is divided into six main sections with a short written introduction and a pictorial preface of ten pages. Organized chronologically the six divisions are listed as follows: Illinois Before Statehood; The Pioneer State; Age of Experiment; Reconstruction; Illinois Comes of Age; and The New Order. The volume contains such a wide variety of materials that it is difficult to describe them in general terms. Military operations are included from the French and Indian War to World War II. The evolution of transportation is described in detail, and there are presentations on industrial and agricultural growth, education, religion, and on the subject of slavery. Chicago comes in for its share of attention along with biographical accounts of leaders from Pere Marquette to Governor Adlai E. Stevenson. There are materials dealing with the Columbian Exposition, historic monuments, clothing and amusements, and many other subjects. The emphasis in the work is definitely social. The pictures are well chosen, some of which are published for the first time.

This album presenting a panorama of historic Illinois is well balanced and soundly compiled. The descriptive materials are well handled and are of value of interpreting the various phases of territorial and state history. The book is a fascinating presentation of Americana and should have a