possible for the authors to go into considerable detail and to provide the reader with a solid foundation for his own evaluation of this experiment. This is particularly important since frequently the Pennsylvania system has been described only superficially and in that process some of the essential features of the system have been overlooked or misinterpreted. 2) The Prison at Philadelphia also indicates some of the factors which make progress in this field so difficult. It makes it clear that in the past ideas in the field of penology were not evaluated on their merits but were quickly engulfed by a host of other considerations, such as political, economic, religious, and emotional. Current studies in crime and penology have shown that many important human motivations are involved on all levels of consideration of crime.

By showing the complexity of motivations which on the one hand led to the development of the Pennsylvania system, its execution and its defense, and on the other hand to criticisms of the Pennsylvania system and the espousal of the so-called Auburn system, the book shows clearly the difficulty of dealing with this issue on an unemotional basis. In doing this the authors show the need for scientific research in the field of penology. This case study of the Pennsylvania system also demonstrates clearly that every phase of penology requires careful and constant attention, from the physical structure of prisons to the training and supervision of every guard. The effectiveness of the most carefully considered general plan can be destroyed if the entire system is not carefully coordinated. To this reviewer this point is the most significant contribution of the book.

The book is well written. Its style and treatment of the subject matter should appeal to everybody interested in these problems, regardless of the reader’s background. While the book is written for the student of penology, it does not assume knowledge of any of the background data but is complete in itself as far as this phase of American penology is concerned.

Indiana University

Dietrich C. Reitzes


Let There Be Light is a comprehensive account of the birth and development of Wisconsin's electric utility industry, with occasional glances at the national scene. At appropriate points the author breaks the narrative to explore the complexities of volts, amperes, hydroelectric dams, and holding companies. The illuminating discussion of difficult scientific and financial concepts which often elude the layman is one of the strongest features of the book.

The organization of his material reflects Mr. McDonald's fidelity to the inductive method. He has treated the origins and early history of electric utilities in practically all of Wisconsin's municipalities as a prelude to generalizations about state-wide developments. In the
...process, he has assembled a prodigious number of facts about the vicissitudes of short-lived, local utility corporations. He includes information about traction, hydro-electric, and central station enterprises, and their relationship. The reader is led through a maze of corporation failures, mergers, and reorganizations. Mr. McDonald makes a conscientious effort to draw meaningful conclusions from this bewildering array of facts. He succeeds rather well, but only the most determined reader can proceed through the vast stretches of municipal history which separate summary paragraphs without losing the thread.

As long as the author concentrates on the scientific and financial aspects of the history of electric utilities, he deserves unqualified admiration. When he examines the interaction between utilities and political movements, he is less persuasive. His sympathy is with the utility companies in every controversy. Readers are prepared for this viewpoint in the preface which postulates the futility of all attempts to understand the action of a group “in terms of any set of standards but their own.” The author’s philosophy of history thus commits him to view the utilities only from their own standpoint. He performs a valuable service by correcting the biases of New Deal historians who were excessively critical of business. Yet it is difficult to accept such a lofty estimate of the motives and behavior of electric utility executives as that which appears on page 200. It is equally difficult to digest the implication that politicians exist primarily to torment businessmen.

The author might have achieved a more balanced perspective had he devoted space to personalities, but his pioneers and promoters are consigned to the background. They function only as the instruments of economic forces, and never achieve autonomy as men with fears, appetites, and emotions. Fortunately, history thrives on controversy, and Mr. McDonald has given historians plenty to think about.

Purdue University
George H. Mayer


Although this book is a history of the militia of the United States, or of the National Guard as it is now known, it is also a study in American federalism. In beginning his initial chapter Professor Riker points out that “each unit of the Guard is responsible to two distinct governments and serves both alternately. Each unit receives financial support from two distinct appropriations recommended by two distinct chief executives and passed by two distinct legislatures. In consequence, each unit of the Guard has, presumably, two distinct loyalties at the same time. This form of organization is in sharp contrast to a fundamental principle of military theory that a force ought to have one and only one commander.” In one sense this volume uses the militia or National Guard as the basis for a case study in federalism.

After reminding readers that the colonial militia constituted an important part of the Revolutionary army and after an attempt to