Book Reviews

the Fifth Corps to the defense of Sickles' ill-formed salient. Moreover, he is unaware of the presence of Vincent's Brigade in the defense of Little Round Top and not clear on the situation into which General Warren directed "Paddy" O'Rorke at the head of the Hundred and Fortieth of New York. Throughout the volume, as well as at the above noted points, the basic description of the battle leaves a little to be desired.

This book is full of personal incidents and first-hand description. It is filled with technical information on the operation and employment of artillery. The author has no quarrel with the traditional—no yen for new theories or appraisements. Gettysburg is still the "decisive battle"; the Eastern Theatre the center of the war; the march of the western armies unheeded; Grant at Vicksburg unnoticed. For the Civil War fan and for the Gettysburg enthusiast, however, the book is a must.

DePauw University
A. W. Crandall

The Republican Era, 1869-1901: A Study in Administrative History.

Leonard D. White's The Republican Era concludes a series of studies in administrative history which began with The Federalists (1948), followed by The Jeffersonians (1951) and The Jacksonians (1954). The series was not intended to be a comprehensive history of public administration in the United States. It was, rather, the intention of the author to describe the theory and practice of administration in the national government under four distinctive and formative phases of its political history. As with the volumes which precede it, The Republican Era is concerned with the national level of government, state and local administration receiving only passing attention.

The years 1869-1901 were not, in the main, years of progress or perfection in the art of public administration. Accomplishments such as the Pendleton Civil Service Law of 1883 were primarily a means of return to the higher standards of public service prevailing during the early years of the Republic. In this and other measures, foundations were laid (often inadvertently) for far-reaching developments to follow. But neither Republicans nor Democrats in this era favored positive public administration in the sense later to be dramatized by Woodrow Wilson and the Roosevelts. The Republicans were as "Jacksonian" in their political principles as the Democrats, but with the important omission of Andrew Jackson.

Both major parties were factionalized throughout the Republican era. But the most consistent and characteristic leadership among the Republicans was found in the United States Senate. Initiative in the chief executive was not a quality sought by these Republican leaders. They expected that Republican presidents would serve primarily as executors of their policies and wishes. They became "righteously" indignant when presidents Hayes and Roosevelt demurred and advanced policies of their own which were prejudicial to personal interests of prominent Republican senators.
The Republican Era affords a good background for anyone interested in understanding the inner contradiction of Republican party politics in our own times. It should be of particular interest to students of politics and history in Indiana. For it appears to be in Indiana that the political viewpoints of the Republican era have enjoyed the most complete and prolonged survival.

It should of course be apparent that there has never been any uniform or consistent Republican philosophy of public administration comparable to the Hamiltonian or Jeffersonian theories of government. The negativism of the Republican era toward effective government was, however, equally shared by Republicans and Democrats, although there were also men associated with both parties who sought greater effectiveness and responsibility in the public service than public opinion was prepared to support. The Republican Era is a powerful antidote to latter day notions of an inherent American superiority in matters governmental. If this nation had a genius for government it was hardly evident in the years between 1869 and 1901.

Indiana University

Lynton Keith Caldwell


This volume of biographical essays, dedicated to Ellis Merton Coulter by some of his former students at the University of Georgia, presents a scholarly view of Georgia's history from 1733 to 1920. While most of the fourteen essays deal with political leaders, there are also included studies of a poet, a historian, a railroad builder, and a woman journalist. Each, in his time, was closely associated with the affairs of the Cracker state. Perhaps the absence of such notable figures as William H. Crawford, Robert Toombs, and Alexander H. Stephens should not be questioned since their careers were devoted largely to the national scene.

The essays begin with John Percival, Earl of Egmont, and end with Hoke Smith who was secretary of the interior during Grover Cleveland’s second administration, governor of the state, and United States Senator. Although Percival never came to Georgia, he was second in importance only to James Oglethorpe in founding the colony. These essays present a fair sampling of the people who shaped Georgia's colonial history, her Indian policies in the early years of the nineteenth century, her role in the Old South, her part in the building of the New South, her relations with Populism and Progressivism, and finally her role in the struggle over Woodrow Wilson's League of Nations. It appears to this reviewer, however, that the study would have been strengthened by the inclusion of Joseph E. Brown, the state's controversial governor during the Civil War, and by the addition of the elder Eugene Talmadge to help bridge the gap between 1920 and the present.

The profession will welcome this volume's fresh and comprehensive approach to certain phases of Georgia's history. This is especially true