

of construction activities, pipe line equipment, and individuals connected with the company. On the whole, the photography is good and the reproduction excellent. There seems to be little direct relation, however, between the illustrations and the text.

The narrative begins on "a hot muggy Sunday afternoon in June, 1909. . . ." and plunges immediately into the reasons for the decision to build a pipe line from Oklahoma to Baton Rouge. The author describes in some detail the construction techniques of fifty years ago and devotes a considerable amount of space to the technical development of the pipe line industry.

He writes equally well, however, about other aspects of company activities and includes material on corporate structure, expansion, corporate finance, personnel problems, labor-management relations, government regulation, the effect of war and depression, the statistics of operation, and winds up with a prediction for the future.

In the discussion of labor-management relations the author in every case is scrupulously careful to summarize the position of the workers or the union. He also gives management's position and the final outcome of the disagreement or problem. In discussing early labor problems he suggests that pipe line construction workers were at times abused (pp. 22-23), but in the later disputes judgement is withheld.

Considerable attention is given to a running fight between the company and the Louisiana regulatory authorities. According to this account, the struggle reached a peak during the 1920's under the Huey Long regime. The author clearly indicates his belief that the company was in the right, although the state supreme court seems to have found both the state and the company at fault. Since 1926, however, relations between the company and the Louisiana Commission "have, virtually without exception, been entirely amicable" (p. 99).

The book ends with the following statement: "Regardless of the accuracy of these prognostications, it can be predicted with complete assurance that, as long as Interstate continues to provide its shippers good service at a reasonable cost without discrimination of any kind, and as long as it meets the competition which is ever present in a free enterprise economy, it will not only survive, but grow and prosper."

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The Jews in Minnesota: The First Seventy-five Years. By W. Gunther Plaut. *American Jewish Communal Histories*, Number 3. (New York: American Jewish Historical Society, 1959. Pp. xii, 347. Appendices, glossary, bibliography, index. \$5.75.)

The research for this book is based on manuscripts and personal papers, particularly those of Hiram D. Frankel, in the Minnesota Historical Society, on records of Jewish organizations, census schedules and other primary sources, newspapers, and interviews with descendants of Jewish leaders. Rabbi Plaut's patient and thorough research commands respect, and his work fills a gap in Minnesota historical writing.

Forty-one chapters portray mainly the history of Jews in St. Paul, Minneapolis, and Duluth from Minnesota's territorial years to the early 1920's. The first decades are described by means of biographical sketches of the early arrivals. The organization of Mount Zion congregation at St. Paul in 1856 introduces a pattern which is hard to avoid and at times awkward. The author, who generally follows a chronological sequence, must alternate between communities and personalities. The reader, however, is also made aware of the different pace and the different stages of integration of the Jewish communities in the three cities with the communities at large. The striking difference between the integration of Jews in the St. Paul community, on the one side, and their isolation in Minneapolis, where outright anti-Semitism developed during and after World War I, on the other, is partly treated in a chapter titled "The Curious Twins." After initial German Jewish immigration, most influential in St. Paul, Eastern European immigration after the Civil War led to social, religious, and even geographical stratification among Jewish groups and greatly increased welfare problems. These problems have always been met magnificently by Jews in all three cities, and particularly in St. Paul. The development of social stratification in Jewish congregations is again largely portrayed through the work of leaders, particularly rabbis, such as Wechsler and Rypin, of Mount Zion in St. Paul, and Deinard, of Shaarai Tov in Minneapolis. The emergence of Reform, Conservatism, and Zionism is thoroughly treated in well-annotated chapters. The work of the lodges, the immediate and ultimate service of the Minnesota Jews in World War I, anti-defamation measures and anti-Semitism in Minneapolis, with the University as "the only bright spot in the area of prejudice" (p. 278), and comparative presentation of minority problems are treated in the last chapters. Here the author can draw on general works such as Albert I. Gordon's *Jews in Transition* (Minneapolis, 1949).

The few scattered references to Jews in Minnesota outside the three large cities and the fact that this is the third in a series of American Jewish communal histories raises an old question, namely, how far does the accident of state boundaries justify the state as a frame of reference for the history of an immigrant group. There are no maps of the shifting Jewish neighborhoods in the Twin Cities and no pictures. This reviewer also regrets what appears to be a concession to that vague nonentity, the popular reader—the colorful but uninformative chapter headings and the short chapters which give the book at least in its first part a kaleidoscopic character. This labor is too serious and the subject too deserving for this type of handling. It is hoped that Rabbi Plaut can find time to complete the task by writing the history of Jewish life in the Twin Cities during the middle of the twentieth century.

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