

kind, or playing cards or billiards" (p. 263). Smoking was prohibited in any college building. According to Professor Manhart, "whatever may be said with regard to the wisdom of this policy it had at least one good result in that it stimulated the ingenuity of the students in finding alternative methods of entertainment" (p. 493). Antidancing regulations proved particularly difficult to enforce and led to all kinds of subterfuges and hypocrisies. As a result of a less stringent definition of imprudent conduct by the General Conference of the Methodist Church in 1924, dancing at fraternity houses was legalized by college authorities. Despite protests (which were far outnumbered by commendations) the new policy was not changed and a junior prom has been an annual event since 1930.

The two volumes are loaded with data, some of which borders on the trivial, viz., a paragraph on campus dogs during the 1890's (p. 270). Much research has made possible a wealth of information regarding distinguished alumni and faculty members. Extracurricular activities are well handled, including the development of an intercollegiate athletic program which was acclaimed in 1930 by the *Survey of Methodist Institutions*. Presidents and board members are accorded due recognition.

Since the author does not summarize the causes for the metamorphosis mentioned in the second paragraph, the reviewer will attempt to do so. DePauw has become a cosmopolitan institution of excellence for at least four reasons: (1) Consistently there have been able presidents and dedicated faculty and board members. (2) Methodists and Methodist organizations have been proud of DePauw's achievements and generous in their support. (3) There has been remarkable success in maintaining support (financial and otherwise) from alumni, friends, corporations, and foundations. (4) There has been adherence to the objective of DePauw as "a spirit of democracy, a spirit of veneration for religion and learning, a spirit which earnestly attempts to train youth to meet the needs of themselves and this harrassed and troubled world" (p. 520).

McKendree College

Max P. Allen

The Story of Purdue Engineering. By H. B. Knoll. ([West Lafayette, Ind.]: Purdue University Studies, 1963. Pp. viii, 430. Illustrations, index. \$8.00.)

One hundred and one years ago Congress enacted the Morrill Act, which made available to each state a sizeable grant-in-aid for colleges of agriculture and mechanical arts. The Indiana legislature formally accepted the grant in 1865. Four years later, this same body set the location of the school in Tippecanoe County and accepted \$150,000 from John Purdue to start building it. Although students began to arrive in the fall of 1874, the main building was not completed until a couple of years later. Thus, began the story of Purdue University.

In some respects, writing a history of a university can be more difficult than writing other historical accounts. Perhaps, this is because of the nature of the source material dealing with such a subject. Annual

presidential reports and university catalogues, to say nothing of bulletins and circulars, contain a certain sterility which militates against the production of a lively history. Furthermore, a writer may find that reliance upon bulletins and school papers can be a risky venture since the very nature of such publications suggests a probable bias. For the most part, then, there remains for the writer of college histories only biographical materials, which he finds must be employed with the greatest of care; a wide variety of contemporary accounts, which he discovers are at best fragmentary and incomplete; and memoirs, which he recognizes as being vulnerable to the vagaries of the human mind. In view of these circumstances, the task confronting Professor Knoll was formidable from the outset.

The Story of Purdue Engineering traces the history of Indiana's illustrious land-grant university from its earliest beginnings to the present. The book is divided into two parts. Part One, consisting of five chapters, presents in chronological order the events which took place during the administrations of Purdue's seven presidents. Although it successfully reveals the general development of the university, it unfortunately contains excessive amounts of biographical detail. In Part Two, eight chapters are devoted to tracing the development of engineering in particular, while the ninth and final chapter is reserved for a biographical sketch of A. A. Potter, who served as dean of engineering at Purdue from 1920 until his retirement in 1953. The merit of dividing the book into these two parts is more apparent than real. It results in needless repetition that is both annoying and confusing. For the author to admit "there is thus some repetition in the writing, but not much" (p. viii) does not make it any more desirable. Although biographical details seem excessive throughout the volume, the author is to be commended on both his ability and his willingness to view his subjects objectively.

The greatest single criticism of this volume is the complete absence of footnotes. Mere mention of sources in the preface or occasional citations in the text itself are inadequate substitutes for the traditional form of documentation. Footnotes listed by chapter in the back of the book would have permitted the author to make a scholarly presentation with little danger of his work suffering any loss of popular appeal.

It is in the use of anecdote that the author is at his best. He employs this technique frequently and effectively. It not only adds an element of human interest but also contributes a desirable degree of cohesiveness to the entire story.

Professor Knoll has written an interesting and readable account of one of the nation's best-known institutions of higher learning. Illustrations are both adequate and appropriate and present a balanced array of people, buildings, and equipment. The general public will find the book entertaining as well as informative. Certainly, the Purdue alumnus will peruse its pages with more than an occasional twinge of nostalgia.