

## Book Reviews

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*Indiana in the Civil War Era, 1850-1880.* By Emma Lou Thornbrough. *The History of Indiana*, Volume III. (Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Bureau and Indiana Historical Society, 1965. Pp. XII, 758. Notes, illustrations, map, bibliographical essay, index. Clothbound, \$7.50; paperbound, \$4.50.)

The author has attempted in writing this volume to have due regard for proportion and balance concerning the numerous topics treated, and, in so doing, has devoted more space and research to the somewhat neglected phases of Indiana history and less to those which have received more adequate treatment. Hence, Thornbrough analyzes to a greater degree post-Civil War political developments than she does pre-Civil War ones. She pays particular attention to economic changes, to which she feels little research has been directed for any part of the period covered.

The scope of this work is broad. On the political side, state and national issues are considered, involving necessarily the career of many prominent individuals. The impact of war, in its numerous ramifications, receives due attention. Such topics as internal improvements, agriculture, manufacturing, banking, education, religion, libraries, newspapers, ethnic strains in population, and other social phenomena consume more than half the pages in this large book. Statistical tables are frequently inserted in such fashion as to be easily correlated with the narrative.

Particular comment is in order on portions of this work. The author, having written the monograph, *The Negro in Indiana before 1900*, reveals exceptionally well the ways in which the Negro was a controversial factor in the state during much of the period covered. She holds that disloyalty in Indiana during the Civil War has been much exaggerated and subscribes to the revisionist view on that matter: "But if one accepts a recent definition of copperheadism as 'avid opposition to the Lincoln administration,' and adds to it avid opposition to Governor Morton, the number of copperheads in Indiana was large. Those who wanted to see the Union permanently divided and who were ready actively to help the Confederate cause were very few" (p. 181).

The temperance question, complicated by a number of factors, was second only to slavery in its emotional impact upon the minds of individuals. The author is at her best in unraveling the twists and turns and inconsistencies incident to the controversy over greenbacks. She portrays the Hoosier Grange as not quite as politically minded as it was in other western states; and she tells us that Indiana, in 1880, had fewer foreign born persons, Delaware excepted, than any other northern state. The Germans and Irish, however, were present in sufficient numbers to affect the history of the state in significant ways.

The development of a network of railroads by 1880 is portrayed in considerable detail, and the blessings and the evils incident to this development are not overlooked. Agriculture made marked progress, but large scale manufacturing was not conspicuous. The origins and growth of an educational system in the face of many adverse factors are the themes of the longest chapter in the book. It is unfortunate

that in writing on educational institutions, religious sects, and newspapers so many names have to be included; but the reviewer realizes there would be criticism if many exceptions were made.

The author is to be congratulated on the prodigious amount of work that has gone into this highly meritorious, comprehensive work. The reviewer wishes that she had indicated some of the reaction in Indiana to Lincoln's indeterminate policy toward Fort Sumter in March, 1861, and that she had included more discussion of the Mississippi River question during the secession crisis. The spelling of the name of the Massachusetts governor should be Andrew, not Andrews (p. 138).

*Ohio State University*

Henry H. Simms

*The Financial Role of Indiana in World War II.* By Bernard Friedman. (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1965. Pp. x, 267. Tables, notes, bibliography, index. Paperbound, \$5.50.)

This useful, informative book is a volume in the Indiana War History Series, *Indiana in World War II*, sponsored by the Indiana War History Commission. A straightforward, readable narrative with a minimum of statistical materials, it covers the fiscal side of the war as it affected Indiana. It includes such matters as the financing of industrial conversion to war production, price, wage, and rent controls, and the war savings program in the state.

The financial role of Indiana in wartime is described within the context of a continuing conflict and debate over fiscal policy participated in by both organized labor and organized business and, sometimes, by organized farmers. The chief antagonists in this struggle were agencies like the State Industrial Council (CIO), the State Federation of Labor (AFL), the State Chamber of Commerce, and the Indiana Farm Bureau. Among the main issues in the controversy were the kind of taxes necessary in order to pay for the war and the proper methods of attaining economic stabilization. In general conservative forces seem to have predominated in Indiana. Only very reluctantly did the state accept the increasing federal regulation and intervention which came with wartime tax collecting practices and economic controls. For some reason the book fails to treat in any detail the political campaigns of the period, which might have thrown considerable light on the divisions of opinion within the state on fiscal questions.

The author's conclusion is that war is costly, both in material losses and in lives. Increased debt and taxes took their toll, but worst of all was inflation, which depreciated the savings of those who put their money in war bonds and bank deposits during the war. In spite of this, many Hoosiers experienced a rise in real income, especially wage earners as contrasted with those dependent on rents, dividends, and interest payments. Also, farmers who were able to pay off their mortgages with wartime gains profited from the higher prices and the rise in farm values in the postwar years. But for the state's population as a whole, the author's last lesson is that in economic terms war is waste.

*DePauw University*

Clifton J. Phillips