

The Frontier Re-examined. Edited by John Francis McDermott. (Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1967. Pp. vii, 192. Notes, illustrations, index. \$6.95.)

The thirteen papers in this volume were given at a conference in 1965 at Southern Illinois University, Edwardsville Campus. As the editor says, a complete survey of the frontier was not the intent of the conferees. The nearest approach to any thematic continuity comes when some of the authors measure Frederick Jackson Turner by their own findings and conclusions. The essayists suggest overlooked or neglected areas for investigation or interpretations that need revision, or they survey and analyze studies already made.

Although the editor asserts in the foreward that to "attack" Turner was not the aim of the papers, as author of the first chapter he charges that Turner was "ignorant of" or "ignored" four basic matters: the prevalence of class distinction, the dominating types of men, the prime importance of business, and the presence of amenities on the very brink of the savage world. McDermott is making a case for the importance of the urban frontier.

Merrill J. Mattes pleads for more research into the role of the frontier towns, especially the "jumping-off places" along the Missouri River for the overland transcontinental trails to Oregon and California. Although Turner and his disciples either ignored or unwittingly by-passed many opportunities for research in transportation history, Oscar O. Winther reminds present historians of their responsibility to rectify this situation because of their advantages of hindsight and of a rich harvest of source materials.

One of the least investigated phases of the American frontier is the territorial process—the collection and preservation of the federal and territorial records as well as research and writing. Oliver W. Holmes contends that Turner's generalizations on territorial development are too smug for what closer study of the records reveals. Herman R. Friis catalogs a sampling of rich cartographic and graphic records and pointedly indicates their sad neglect on the part of historians, including Turner, and geographers. John C. Ewers makes a similar case for pictorial documents which are sometimes "more significant" as historical documents than written descriptions.

Turner's clarion call to look to the frontier for the secrets of American history inspired many able studies of the mountain men in the trans-Mississippi West. Neglected, however, are the fur companies behind the enterprises in the field. Richard E. Oglesby focuses on the years 1820-1823 in St. Louis, previously labeled as a quiet period because of the panic and depression of 1819. Evidence proves quite the opposite. Anthropologist Preston Holder illuminates some unclear corners of time with provocative archeological studies to determine the Indian view of the fur trade in the early days of the Indian-European exchange of gifts, goods, and ideas.

In other essays: Donald Jackson examines Spanish reaction to the Lewis and Clark, Thomas Freeman, and Zebulon Pike expeditions as they penetrated

what Spain regarded as her "interior provinces." Ralph E. Morrow reaffirms that religious organizations did not participate creatively in the frontier process in the early nineteenth century because they were too deeply involved with internal problems as emergent denominations. Joe B. Frantz attempts to articulate a cowboy philosophy. It is evasive and elusive, but Frantz chooses to continue his search even though the spoor is cold.

A pair of studies considers fiction and the frontier. In the four pre-Civil War decades, according to Jules Zanger, the image of the frontiersman in popular fiction changed from "savage simplicity and primitive depravity" to one of a heroic, self-made, independent, and democratic representative American. George R. Brooks analyzes the American frontier image in German fiction, especially in the works of four early nineteenth-century writers who spent some time on the frontier. It is curious that seventy-novel Karl May, who never saw the setting of his stories and who is sometimes called the James Fenimore Cooper of Germany, is not even mentioned.

Anyone interested in the American frontier should read this collection of papers.

Miami University

Dwight L. Smith

Church and State in French Colonial Louisiana: Policy and Politics to 1732.

By Charles Edward O'Neill. (New Haven: Yale University Press, 1966. Pp. xii, 315. Notes, bibliography, index. \$10.00.)

This study of church-state relations in the early days of French rule in Louisiana offers a minutely detailed and thoroughly documented account of the interrelated activities of civil and religious officials in France, New France, and the colony itself, which formed part of the Diocese of Quebec. Although the two powers were separate, the state, in the person of the king, had vital powers over the Gallican church; and for the church national ideals were linked with religious ones in the ancient spirit of *gesta Dei per Francos*. As a result, Father O'Neill concludes:

Where one might have expected monolithic union, one found, in reality, diversity and complexity. Along with collaboration there was conflict, or rather there was confrontation. In colonial planning, ideals and expediency were rivals; in missiology, theology stood vis-à-vis nationalism; on the general social scene, the design for a spiritual New France was confronted by the lawless corruption that followed forced immigration into an unstable polity (p. 283).

The church-state confrontation in Louisiana was even more marked than in New France. It was complicated from the first by rivalries, which are perpetuated today by Franciscan and Jesuit historians, among the secular priests and the religious orders; and the Jesuit author deserves much credit for holding the balance so fairly amid the welter of conflicting interests and personalities which produced more paper than progress in the colony. The