

Book Reviews

Charlie Halleck: A Political Biography. By Henry Z. Scheele. Foreword by Dwight D. Eisenhower. Introduction by Everett McKinley Dirksen. (New York: Exposition Press, 1966. Pp. 287. Notes, appendices, index. \$6.00.)

The author conducts the reader through the political career of Charlie Halleck in a manner that is satisfying in some respects, but less so in others. He is a lively and enlightening guide when narrating the personal fortunes of his subject. Halleck's rapid rise to his party's second highest office in the House as majority leader in 1947, his nomination of Eisenhower in 1956, and his attainment of the top Republican post in the House of Representatives in 1959 by replacing Minority Leader Joe Martin are well related. So also is the account of the reversal of his fortunes in 1965 when defeated by Gerald Ford of Michigan in a vigorous bid to continue as Republican House leader. Thus the reader shares in the triumphs of the Indiana congressman and in his disappointment at not reaching either of his most coveted goals of speaker of the House and vice president.

The author is less successful when he leaves personal, narrative history. The domestic social and economic environment and the foreign relations within which Halleck's career operated are inadequately outlined, even for a "political biography." Emphasis is sometimes too narrow; for example, President Eisenhower's campaign in 1956 is covered, but his party's failure to capture Congress (so vital to one in Halleck's position) is scarcely mentioned. The most serious professional fault, however, is apparent from an examination of the sources used. Lapses include ignoring the public and private papers of leaders of the period and making scant use of congressional and other governmental records. The results are some unusual footnotes (*e.g.* the *Valparaiso Vidette-Messenger* is cited for a key congressional vote on page 110, the *Korea Times* for Republican threats to impeach President Truman on page 131, and a popular college textbook for the complex Greek situation in 1947 on page 116.)

But what of the Charlie Halleck which emerges from this study? Achievements on the negative side included revitalizing the Republican-Southern Democratic coalition to an efficiency of 91 per cent, receiving a career rating of 86 per cent from the very conservative Americans for Constitutional Action, displaying his legislative expertness by such maneuvers as killing the 1956 aid-to-education bill by promoting the Powell Amendment that would make it unacceptable to the southern states, and successfully serving the opposition an "assortment of fast curves and sharp-breaking sliders" (p. 195). These probably accounted for much of his contemporary popularity in the Indiana Second Congressional District and in conservative circles throughout the country.

However, the record included more of the positive than Halleck's many critics have usually noted. He supported the civil rights acts. With a fellow

Republican as President from 1953-1961, he labored for extension of reciprocal trade agreements, the St. Lawrence Seaway project, public housing, and foreign aid. Most of these measures he had previously opposed, as the right wing of the Indiana party hotly reminded him.

It is not intended to suggest that Representative Halleck has been a hidden liberal. It is probably nearer the truth to say that his role has been more that of a professional politician than of a conservative ideologue. Judging from his defense of the profession of politics, he might not regard that judgment as a harsh one.

University of South Dakota

Cedric Cummins

Goodly Heritage: One Hundred Fifty Years of Craft Freemasonry in Indiana.

By Dwight L. Smith. ([Indianapolis]: Grand Lodge of F. & A.M. of Indiana, 1968. Pp. 535. Illustrations, appendices, source materials, index. \$10.00.)

Goodly Heritage offers an informative, interesting, and significant history of Masonry in Indiana. It is a worthy and permanent contribution to the sesquicentennial of the founding of the Grand Lodge of Indiana at Madison early in 1818, the observance of which has continued during 1968. Although the major attention is devoted to the beginning or lower orders of Masonry for men—commonly called Craft Masonry, consideration is also given to other orders for men as well as special orders for women and youth. Comprehensive in scope, the book includes information concerning early local lodges, establishment of the Grand Lodge, ups and downs of membership, and the anti-Masonic movement as well as such topics as Masonic charity, ethics, ritual, philosophy, and membership requirements. So far as chronology is concerned, the main focus is on the beginnings and then the development of Masonry during the initial half of the nineteenth century.

This volume contributes useful information and interesting perspectives about the anti-Masonic crusade which reached its peak during the late 1820's and the 1830's. It definitely supports a commonly held view that the political impact of anti-Masonry was modest among Hoosiers, but it plows some new ground in its vivid account of the near demise of the Grand Lodge of Indiana during the early 1830's. Dr. David G. Mitchell, of Corydon, apparently the major anti-Masonic leader in the state, is frankly described as an ex-Mason who had been expelled for drunkenness and other causes. Despite the anti-Masonic crusade, five of Indiana's first eight governors were Masons: Jonathan Jennings, James B. Ray, Noah Noble, David Wallace, and James Whitcomb. Moreover, these executives served for approximately twenty-seven of the thirty-two years from 1816 to 1848.

Smith is to be commended for his substantial research and thoughtful evaluations. He has made much use of Indiana Masonic records, especially those of the Grand Lodge and local lodges. But Smith has also used an