

Book Reviews

Indiana in Transition: The Emergence of an Industrial Commonwealth, 1880-1920. By Clifton J. Phillips. *The History of Indiana, Volume IV.* (Indianapolis: Indiana Historical Bureau & Indiana Historical Society, 1968. Pp. xiv, 674. Notes, illustrations, maps, bibliography, index. Cloth-bound, \$7.50; paperbound, \$4.50.)

This highly creditable contribution has been made by a DePauw University scholar who is at once a deft stylist and a diligent digger in primary and secondary sources. Chronologically, it follows Butler University Professor Emma Lou Thornbrough's excellent *Indiana in the Civil War Era, 1850-1880*, which appeared in 1965.

No strain is placed on the reader's imagination to suggest that the shade of an Edward Eggleston or a Charles A. Beard would thoroughly approve of the author's emphases and space allocations. Only three chapters deal exclusively with politics, and only one chapter is devoted to the First World War. Economic, educational, religious, literary, and related history will be found in nearly four fifths of the book—with agriculture, conservation, and labor among the broad subjects which are assigned a chapter apiece. Thus *Indiana in Transition* has both the strengths and the limitations often identified with works the arrangement of which is primarily topical. Given the variety and detail of the material necessarily treated, the reviewer is of the opinion that overall no possible alternative would have served Phillips' purposes so well.

Few gremlins have crept between the boards. United States Senator James A. Hemenway of Indiana failed to win reelection in 1909 (p. 93n); he was not under serious consideration in 1911. "The much-criticized secret legislative caucus of 1906" (p. 107) and the "secret legislative caucus . . . in 1906" (p. 110) occurred in January, 1909, over two years after the indicated date. *Alice of Old Vincennes* is attributed correctly to Maurice Thompson (p. 513) and incorrectly to Meredith Nicholson (p. 518). Other mistakes, whether of commission or omission, are few and comparatively minor. On the other hand, pluses are abundant. This reviewer has rarely read an historical study of any state so full of both accurate information and sensible interpretation. The many maps, illustrations, and bibliographical contributions are first rate. And from the standpoint of an adroit balancing of statistical data and readable narrative, few works on the Hoosierland can be so confidently recommended. In short, Phillips' volume is at once a storehouse of facts to be exploited and admired and an appealing presentation delightful to peruse.

At times a pathfinder in the field of history and at other times a synthesist of predecessors' discoveries, Professor Phillips deserves the hearty congratulations of Hoosiers near and far—and indeed of all Americans intrigued by the story of Indiana's people, preferences, standards, and growth.

University of Kentucky, Lexington

Holman Hamilton