

territorial papers, state documents, and the publications of state and local historical societies) and the latest monographs, this is an able and well written study that admirably accomplishes its goal of synthesis. Full documentation, an extensive bibliography, a workable index, and numerous maps and illustrations further recommend the volume to general readers and scholars alike.

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America's Frontier Story: A Documentary History of Westward Expansion. Edited by Martin Ridge and Ray Allen Billington. (New York: Holt, Rinehart and Winston, 1969. Pp. xxi, 657. Notes, illustrations. Paperbound, \$6.95.)

For over two decades Ray Allen Billington's *Westward Expansion* has been the mainstay of the university western history course. That fine work has now been supplemented by *America's Frontier Story*, a chronicle of the westward movement as recorded by its participants. The story is important, the editors note, "because it speaks of the frontier spirit, the spirit of daring, of enterprise, of hope, that has become a part of the American tradition—and has not been completely weathered away by the substitution of an industrial-urban environment in the twentieth century" (p. vi).

Although it can stand on its own merits, *America's Frontier Story* is evidently intended for use as a companion to *Westward Expansion* and should be welcomed by students and instructors alike. Indeed, the chapters in each work follow a similar pattern, tracing the course of expansion from the arrival of Columbus in the Americas into the twentieth century. The readings, however, are confined almost entirely to the traditional story of the westward movement. Except for photographs, Hawaii and Alaska go unnoticed, and there is almost a total absence of material on minority groups other than the Indian. This is somewhat surprising since the textbook contains a chapter on slavery in the West. To help make the study of western history more relevant in this era of student activism it would have been appropriate to include documents about the role of the Chinese, the Mexican-American, and the Negro in the frontier story.

America's Frontier Story surpasses the textbook in the magnificent portfolio of some fifty photographs which in themselves document the camera's westward movement. The large number of pictures also no doubt accounts for the high cost of this paperbound book. Nevertheless, here Alaska and the minority groups are well represented, with pictures of Negro homesteaders in Nebraska, Negro cowboys in Texas, a Negro prospector in Alaska, and Chinese

laborers in a California gold field. These and the other photographs—of immigrant families resting by their covered wagons, a barn raising in Minnesota, cowboys dancing with each other, a lynching in Colorado—are stark and striking evidence of the frontier spirit, daring, enterprise, and hope that has become a part of the American tradition.

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Frontier Capitalist: The Life of John Evans. By Harry E. Kelsey, Jr. ([Denver] : State Historical Society of Colorado and the Pruett Publishing Company, 1969. Pp. xiv, 371. Illustrations, notes, bibliography, index. \$12.50 ; deluxe edition, \$15.00.)

The story of Governor John Evans is well known in western history. In many respects the most interesting of all the famous names connected with Colorado Territory, Evans was a curious combination of dreamer, promoter, and man of action. In an age of political spoilsmen and unscrupulous businessmen Evans was an anomaly, notwithstanding his occasional surrender to expediency and vindictiveness. This biography by Harry E. Kelsey, which supplements and, in many ways, revises the early study (1924) by Edgar C. McMechen, is welcome.

A physician, founder of universities, humanitarian, businessman, railroad builder, and politician, Evans attained prominence in three states—Indiana, Illinois, and Colorado. He combined a religious commitment to the betterment of society with an ambition for worldly place and fortune. He launched a successful movement for the establishment of the first mental hospital in Indiana, took a leading part in the founding of Northwestern University, invested in real estate in both Chicago and Evanston, and became the director of the Fort Wayne and Chicago Railroad, foreshadowing his great railroad achievements in Colorado.

Throughout his life Evans had an amazing ability to shut out the immediate past and move to new adventure. In 1862 he journeyed from Chicago to Colorado where he served as territorial governor and where he made a fortune in real estate and railroad construction. Although his term as chief executive was short lived and complicated by his handling of Indian relations, his achievements were relatively impressive considering the vacillating governmental policies and meddling Indian Bureau politicians. The author concludes that Evans was removed from office in 1865 because of political pressure in Washington rather than from his inability to handle the Indian prob-