

was the result of a plot by northern businessmen eager to keep the South out of the Union until the business community had established an economic system which would benefit its own class. On the other hand he rejects the positions taken by Eric McKittrick and the Coxes that Johnson was to blame for the military reconstruction because of his selfish political objectives which alienated the Republican moderates and caused them to join the radicals in imposing a harsh settlement. "The program of military reconstruction," insists Bonadio, "was the expedient hit upon by the new Republicans . . . who wanted to preserve their party's national supremacy by keeping the South impotent as long as possible" (p. 52). In Ohio time was needed to secure party harmony and unity.

Bonadio's study is weakened by his failure to look beyond an analysis of the stated motives of political leaders. Since politicians talk political expediency and patronage to each other, by concentrating on an examination of intraparty correspondence Bonadio does not explore the mixed motives of politicians and does not reveal the influence of the larger constituency. Before the reconstruction issues can be pronounced a sham platform, there is a need for a comprehensive examination of other sources, such as religious, political, labor, and business records and journals.

The most significant contribution of Bonadio's study is the thorough and revealing analysis that he gives of the intraparty strife, third party tendencies, and lack of cohesion in the Republican party of Ohio during the 1860s.

*Morehead State University, Morehead, Ky.*

Victor B. Howard

*An Illinois Reader.* Edited by Clyde C. Walton. (DeKalb: Northern Illinois University Press, 1970. Pp. xvii, 468. Illustration, maps, notes, index. \$7.50.)

Clyde C. Walton, former executive director of the Illinois State Historical Society, has compiled twenty-five essays for this sesqui-centennial volume on the history of his native state. The articles were taken exclusively from the periodical publications of the society and their impact is impressive. If anyone has forgotten the names of the distinguished scholars who were interested in the history of Illinois, the table of contents will serve as an excellent reminder. James Alton James, Benjamin P. Thomas, Ray A. Billington, Paul W. Gates, David Donald, and Allan Nevins head the imposing list.

Walton has organized *An Illinois Reader* along chronological lines. Five sections, each roughly eighty pages in length, treat sequentially with five periods: the prestatehood, the frontier state, the

Lincoln, the emerging industrial, and the recent. This chronological balance is sound, and the mix of essays—social, political, biographical, and economic—within each section is excellent. Walton has identified each author and provided an ample and interesting introduction for each of the periods. He has also included some useful maps.

Walton selected essays that he liked and that he thought would be of interest to adult readers. He was successful. This reviewer discovered the essays to be as fresh in the rereading as they were when he read them for the first time. These essays have style and pungency. Here is Allan Nevins telling about Lincoln and Lorado Taft; Ray A. Billington describing “starry-eyed speculators”; David Donald noting that “few Negroes have written books about their great emancipator” (p. 255); Harvey Wish explaining John P. Altgeld’s pardon of the Chicago anarchists; and Walter Trohan recounting his life with the owner and publisher of the *Chicago Tribune*, Colonel Robert R. McCormick. But each essay offers its reader fascinating fare, and anyone interested in the history of Illinois and the Middle West will find this book a worthwhile addition to his library.

*Indiana University, Bloomington*

Martin Ridge

*The Territorial Papers of the United States. Volume XXVII, The Territory of Wisconsin Executive Journal, 1836-1848; Papers, 1836-1839. Compiled and edited by John Porter Bloom. (Washington: United States Government Printing Office, 1969. Pp. xiv, 1438. Map, notes, illustration, index. \$13.50.)*

This first of two volumes for Wisconsin marks the resumption of publication of *The Territorial Papers of the United States* now under the editorship of John Porter Bloom. In three parts this volume contains a representative selection of documents from the period January to June, 1836, preceding the creation of the Wisconsin Territory, the Executive Journal of the territory from 1836 to 1848, and selected papers from the first administration of Governor Henry Dodge from 1836 to 1839. Bloom is generous in his acknowledgements to his predecessor, Clarence E. Carter, who before his death in 1961 had edited the previous twenty-six volumes and done much of the preliminary work on the Wisconsin volumes. But credit for the remarkable achievement of this volume must belong to Bloom and his staff, for they had to proceed knowing that simultaneously with the publication of this volume there would be released one hundred sixteen microfilm reels containing “substantially” all the Wisconsin territorial records now in the National Archives.

One can hardly avoid asking why a small proportion of the