

A short review can only hint at the significance of this volume and the wealth of information it contains. All the major themes of the subject are covered, and the interpretive sections will undoubtedly provide a great deal of material for future research and discussion. The book is based on study of a mass of manuscript material as well as newspapers, printed sources, and interviews. Because of its thoroughness it is not an easy book to read, but it is certainly required for any student of the history of black people in North America as well as students of Canadian-United States relations.

Wilmington College, Wilmington, Ohio

Larry Gara

*The White Response to Black Emancipation: Second-Class Citizenship in the United States Since Reconstruction.* By Sig Synnestvedt. (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1972. Pp. vii, 248. Notes, bibliographical essay, index. Paperbound, \$3.95.)

In the introduction to this book the author, who is a white professor teaching at a school with a predominantly white student body, tells the reader that, to meet the needs of his students, he decided not to try to teach a course in "Negro history" but instead to teach a course on "'white history' with emphasis upon the means by which whites in America have imposed second-class citizenship upon their black fellow citizens" (p. 3). The book under review is an outgrowth of this course. In it Synnestvedt addresses himself to what he calls the "greatest social need in America today"—the reeducation of whites of all ages to a recognition of the realities of the racial record in the United States. His point of view is summed up in James Weldon Johnson's comment: "The race question involves the saving of black America's body and white America's soul" (p. 6). More recently a black sergeant with the United States forces in Germany, who was being interrogated about racial incidents, expressed the same view when he replied: "What's the problem? What's the problem? Hell . . . [the white man] knows the problem. He *is* the problem!" (p. 212).

The book does not represent original research but is a summary and synthesis of developments since Reconstruction. It deals with such topics as legalized segregation and disfranchisement, lynching, internal migration, the origins of the northern ghetto, the activities of the modern Ku Klux Klan, racism in World War I and World War II, and the Equal Rights Revolution of the 1950s and 1960s. It covers some of the same material as August Meier and Elliott M. Rudwick's *From Plantation to Ghetto* (1966), John Hope Franklin's *From Slavery to Freedom* (1947), and other textbooks; but the emphasis is on

the role of whites, especially white racism. There are some factual errors. A conspicuous example is an incident in Chicago in 1916 in which Synnestvedt pictures Paul Lawrence Dunbar (who died in 1906) as the victim of white harassment when he moved into a white neighborhood. This is a badly garbled version of an incident described by Arna Bontemps and Jack Conroy as having happened to a man who was an admirer of Dunbar's poems.

Synnestvedt makes no pretense of objectivity. He writes with the purpose of not merely informing but of arousing the conscience of white Americans. Students and the general reader should find the book provocative. There is a useful bibliographical essay. One hopes that the book will contribute to achieving the objective for which it was written.

*Butler University, Indianapolis*

Emma Lou Thornbrough

*How the U. S. Cavalry Saved Our National Parks.* By H. Duane Hampton. (Bloomington: Indiana University Press, 1971. Pp. 246. Illustrations, map, bibliography, notes, index. \$8.95.)

Coupled together, cavalry and national parks are today contradictory, almost like mixing napalm and chaparral. Yet the contemporary, peace loving ecologist who reads H. Duane Hampton's able study will find that it was indeed the disciplined policing by the United States cavalry which saved what are today the Yosemite, Sequoia, and General Grant parks. Certainly the pollution conscious contemporary will be surprised at how genuine was the threat of rubbish accumulation, extinction of wild life, and sheer vandalism that occurred in these sanctuaries before the military moved in.

Yellowstone has just celebrated its centennial as America's first national park. In 1872 this Wyoming wonderland had not long enjoyed such status before a United States army officer reported: "The ornamental work about the crater and the pools had been broken and defaced in the most prominent places . . . The visitors prowled about with shovel and ax, chopping and hacking and prying up great pieces . . ." (pp. 40-41). By the early 1880s the westward push of the Northern Pacific Railroad swelled the ever mounting number of Yellowstone tourists. The resultant pillage and wanton contempt for nature horrified General Philip Sheridan and others who cared. By 1886 the United States cavalry found itself assigned the policeman's role. As had been the army's fate before, this duty fell to the military because of congressional parsimony and because no other branch of the government could do the job. The army did not retire from this duty until 1918; at that time civilian hands, today's Na-