There may even be too much detail. At several points this reviewer found himself wishing for more of what Wik thinks and less of what the editor of a small town paper or a Ford public relations man had to say. Not that the unearthing of these opinions is to be denigrated; it is a valuable historical achievement—but then the reader, or at least this reviewer, would like to know how a mature scholar like Wik interprets it. For example, Chapter 5 is largely a compilation of contemporary opinions pro and con the Fordson tractor. Wik is correct in stating that “No account of the social impact of the farm tractor has ever been written” (p. 99), and to present such an account was not his purpose. But the author does discuss Ford’s contribution to farm mechanization in a way that avoids rather than faces the issue. It also seems odd to have Harry Ferguson mentioned only once (p. 97), and then with no reference to his relationship with Ford.

Wik offers his own evaluations of Ford in the context of this book. He agrees with practically everyone who has tried it that Ford is a difficult personality to interpret. Two points call for comment. Wik credits Ford with considerable scientific acumen, more so than Ford’s other biographers, in practical matters like plant chemistry and plastics. On the other hand he attempts, not too successfully, to dismiss Ford as an inventor or even an innovator in automotive matters. Is it really worth while belaboring the fact that Ford did not invent the automobile and was not the first to dream of the cheap car or to try to realize it? What matters historically is that none of Ford’s predecessors could make the dream come true and Henry Ford did.

Wik has made a major contribution to the literature on Ford, but even in his chosen field of Ford’s relationship with rural America he has not said the last word. He has, however, clearly established that he is the best qualified person to say it.

Harvey Mudd College, Claremont, Calif. John B. Rae


The purpose of this book is to provide a compilation of voting statistics in tabular form for national offices during the recent period of American political history. The major portion of the volume is comprised of statistics concerning elections for President, senator, and representative by state and for the United States. The author also presents the sum of partisan votes for representative and the mean partisan vote as measures of partisanship. Finally, a relatively com-
plete set of notes for each state is presented. The partisan complexion of each state's congressional delegation, names of important minor parties, contests for short terms, and endorsements are reported.

Noting other compilations of electoral statistics, the author argues that none of the other studies combines the reporting of data for national elections for each kind of constituency (national, state, and congressional district) during a period of comparable length. Few other works report notes of similar detail concerning voting distributions.

Despite the care that the author has taken to insure accuracy in this collection of statistics, this reviewer was disappointed by the scope of the book. The addition of a few pieces of information would have greatly enhanced the value of the work for social scientists. First, a rudimentary analytic framework would have been helpful in aiding interpretation of the data. Indications of partisan groupings of states and of the development of new groupings of states during the period would have been helpful. Behaviorally oriented typologies can add immeasurably to a book of this kind by helping the reader to structure the extremely complex subject matter. Genuine innovation may also be a result of such activity.

Usefulness of the volume would have been increased if voting turnout had been reported. Based on estimates of eligible electors, turnout would have allowed rapid computation of roll-off, drop-off, and other descriptive statistics that would have added a new dimension.

Finally, a series of events occurred during this period that undoubtedly had a tremendous impact on political partisanship and on popular participation in elections (in addition to minor party challenges). Progressives and other political activists succeeded in establishing institutional changes in electoral practices during the early portion of the period. Mandatory voter registration, for example, was a reform that had gross consequences for voter participation in Indiana.

Other institutional changes and historical events that are associated with each state's voting distributions would appear to merit comment in the footnotes. Primary elections, the institutionalization and (more recent) decline of Jim Crow laws and practices, hours the polls are open, ballot form, enfranchisement, and other legal aspects of voting varied considerably by state. Each has an impact on partisanship as well as on turnout.

Although the brief introduction was difficult to follow and a bit stilted in several places, this is in part due to presentation of highly qualified conditions for reading and interpreting electoral records. This compilation of voting statistics is workmanlike in construction
and should be of considerable value as a reference volume for the quantitatively oriented historian. The usefulness of the volume should be particularly marked for scholars who do not have ready access to large scale data bases and modern digital computers.

Ohio State University, Columbus

C. Richard Hofstetter


During the past year two accounts of the life of Alfred C. Kinsey and his controversial research have appeared, both by persons who had long association with him in the Institute for Sex Research at Indiana University. This reviewer's outstanding impression of Mrs. Christenson's book is that she has presented remarkably well an enormous amount of detail, much of it highly technical. Kinsey's early work on gall wasps is described clearly, and the transition from this to the later studies on human sexual behavior blends the two into a single study of individual variation. As a lifelong resident of Bloomington, having close ties with Indiana University, the author has used her knowledge of campus life in tactful and effective ways to tell her story. Some of the best parts of the book recount the Kinsey marriage, the establishment of the Kinsey's home in Bloomington, and their relations with their neighbors.

Christenson notes Kinsey's estrangement in later years from all formal church activity—even to the family's forbidding a daughter to become a church member at the age of twelve because she was too young to make the decision. The author contrasts this with Kinsey's early experiences as a member of a rigidly religious family; his interest in Sunday School, scouting (an Eagle Scout), and the YMCA; and his more or less regular church attendance up to about the time of his marriage.

Kinsey's father, a self-made man without much formal education but a member of the teaching staff of Stevens Institute at Hoboken, New Jersey, had visions of Alfred's becoming an engineer; but at the age of twenty, after two years as a student in the institute, Alfred declared his independence and enrolled in Bowdoin College, attracted there by the program in biology. Henceforth he was practically without support from his family. Following graduation from Bowdoin, graduate work at Harvard, and a year on a traveling fellowship, he came to Indiana University as assistant professor of zoology in 1920, advanced rapidly, and remained for the rest of his life.

Kinsey is remembered in university circles for his broad interests