

has paid less attention to economic, social, and cultural history than is appropriate. This reviewer falls in the latter group, but he also realizes that Sage's emphasis to a considerable extent follows the emphasis of the historical literature that was available to him. On balance Sage has rendered a great service to Iowans and to the members of the scholarly community. It is hoped that publication of this book along with recent changes in Iowa's historical programs presage a new productive era in the support and writing of Iowa history.

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*The University of Kansas: A History.* By Clifford S. Griffin.  
(Lawrence: The University Press of Kansas, 1974. Pp. xiv, 808. Illustrations, notes, index. \$20.00.)

Griffin's book tells of the evolution of a university from its chartering in 1863 to the present time. The Kansas legislature separated the need for a university from that for an agricultural college and established separate institutions. The Morrill Land Grant Act of 1862, however, was the spur to the establishment of any kind of university. The University of Kansas, without the land grant, struggled into existence amid public disinterest, lack of students, and the absence of legislative support. The citizenry was confused about the nature of a university, and that confusion was translated into opposition or indifference.

Although Griffin's book, like most institutional histories, moves slowly through endless facts of encyclopedic proportions, the work has several redeeming features. The author is obviously at his best as he traces the role of the faculty in shaping curriculum and institutional programs. How a faculty matured is well described here, better perhaps than in most volumes of this kind. The growth of professionalization and departmentalization weaves its way through the story with periodic encounters with efforts to refocus administrative control. Griffin also advances and defends the thesis that the changes in student social life and activities were as much influenced by specialization and professionalization as by the rise of student hedonism. Another assessment that raises this volume above some others is the analysis

of the relationship of populism and progressivism to the rise of the university. How that relationship differed from the one in Wisconsin and other states is interesting but not sufficiently developed.

A major criticism of the book is that in cataloging facts, the author obscures many strong passages. The very human story of Professor James H. Canfield as he comes and goes through the narrative is obscured by hundreds of faceless characters, without any human dimension, who occupy roles as faculty, regents, students, and legislators. The story has an impersonal, monolithic feeling about it, as though the institution in the end triumphed over the individuals, and perhaps it did. Another major criticism is that the story of the University of Kansas is not related to the broader history of higher education. Griffin does better than most, but he ignores efforts over the past decade toward more comparative institutional histories. One regrets the absence of a bibliography in this handsome volume. The general tendency of faculty not to put their papers in archives is shown once again by the paucity of references to such records.

On balance, Griffin has written a very fine book, meticulous in its attention to fact, perhaps a good compromise for those who pay for institutional histories and those who try to make use of them.

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*Ohio Farm.* By Wheeler McMillen. Illustrations by John D. Firestone and Associates. ([Columbus]: Ohio State University Press, 1974. Pp. x, 220. Illustrations. \$11.00.)

In the preface and first chapter the author tells the intent of his book: "to describe what went on in field, barn, house and rural neighborhood" during the years his father called his "golden years," about 1900 to 1915; also to be "a sort of biography" of the author's father, L. D. McMillen.

*Ohio Farm* is museum like in its faithful portrayal of method, machinery, and life pattern of those farm years. The author, later editor of *Farm Journal*, sometimes sets new ways beside ways of "the golden years," but without lamentation or glorification. He simply shows them, and answers the