

he impressed many acquaintances as being a man whose greatest concern was his own advancement. He himself liked few people, but he enjoyed his success as a leader in society. Reserved and withdrawn, he nonetheless was an effective public speaker. Duncan does not profess to have solved the mysteries of Reid's personality, but he provides his reader with many anecdotes which reveal Reid in different moods. For example, Duncan describes the Reids buying a room from a French chateau and installing it in their New York mansion; a few pages later he describes Reid trying to decide between two plasters, one costing thirty-five cents a yard and the other thirty cents, for the walls of a chicken house at Ophir Farm, his country estate. Duncan writes of Reid's constant concern for his mother, wife, and children, but some of the most memorable passages in this book tell of Reid discharging employees of the *Tribune* when he found he could hire others for less. Duncan's presentations of Reid's views on most major issues are brief—perhaps too brief—but his discussions of Reid's positions on the protective tariff and the acquisition of the Philippines are unusually clear analyses of those important subjects.

Duncan bases this study primarily upon the Reid papers in the Library of Congress, documents in the National Archives, and Reid's published writings. This concise, well written biography will be of interest to anyone concerned with American politics, diplomacy, and journalism of the periods from the Civil War to World War I.

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*Adlai Stevenson of Illinois: The Life Of Adlai E. Stevenson.*

By John Bartlow Martin. (Garden City, N.Y. : Doubleday & Company, Inc., 1976. Pp. ix, 828. Notes, illustrations, appendixes, source notes, index. \$15.00.)

Democratic presidential nominee Adlai Stevenson had a splendid idea for his 1952 campaign: appeal to the best in people. He told Archibald MacLeish, one of his speechwriters: "I get so sick of the everlasting appeals to the cupidity and prejudice of every group which characterizes our political campaigns. There is something finer in people; they know that they owe something, too. I should like to try, at least, to appeal to their sense of obligation as well as their avarice"

(p. 653). He did just that, at least in most of his speeches in his first campaign for the White House. That he did was due in large measure to the hard work and brilliance of a small group of speechwriters, one of whom was John Bartlow Martin.

Martin, who grew up in Indianapolis, went to DePauw University, and prior to World War II worked on the Indianapolis *Times*, has written this exceptionally well done political biography. A gifted writer and reporter with an especially skillful eye for detail, he has drawn a candid, sometimes brutally honest portrait of a Democratic politician who stirred the American intellectual and academic community as no one had since Woodrow Wilson.

The first of two volumes, the book covers the period from Stevenson's birth in 1900 through the 1952 presidential campaign. Martin shows that Stevenson was a great man, although not wholly the man the public believed him to be. He was wealthy but parsimonious, haggling with a tenant over \$12.50 in rent. Although he appeared reluctant to get into politics, that was a false picture. He wanted to get in for years before he did and constantly angled for political opportunities. He appeared indecisive, vacillating, even timid. But often he had made his mind up long before, merely playing the public role of indecision for effect.

His marriage broken and ending in divorce in 1949, his first year as governor of Illinois, he carried on simultaneous love affairs with Alicia Patterson and Dorothy Fosdick, the daughter of Harry Emerson Fosdick. Despite the admiration intellectuals lavished on him, he rarely read a book. He was a late bloomer, a man who matured slowly as he wandered away from the life of a LaSalle Street lawyer and suburban commuter in prewar Chicago to win a landslide victory as governor of Illinois in 1948 and the Democratic presidential nomination in 1952 and 1956.

His speeches, letters, and public statements were often moving, graceful, and witty. They were not as spontaneous as it seemed. He worked like the very devil to get them just right. He never achieved the presidency; he might not have been a good one had he made it to the White House. But he elevated the quality of American politics.

Martin's first volume is superlative; it whets the appetite for the second.