

*Inkpaduta—The Scarlet Point: Terror of the Dakota Frontier and Secret Hero of the Sioux*, by Maxwell Van Nuys. Denver: Maxwell Van Nuys, 1998. xiii, 479 pp. Illustrations, maps, notes, bibliography, index.

REVIEWED BY WILLIAM E. LASS, MINNESOTA STATE UNIVERSITY, MANKATO

Inkpaduta, a renegade Wahpekute Dakota from Minnesota, is well known in Iowa history as the perpetrator of an 1857 incident that traditionally has been called "The Spirit Lake Massacre." After killing 32 squatters, Inkpaduta and his small band escaped into present-day South Dakota. Van Nuys traces the life of the shadowy fugitive through Indian wars in Dakota Territory and the famous 1876 Battle of the Little Bighorn in Montana Territory.

With the exception of Doane Robinson's *A History of the Dakota or Sioux Indians*, which was published in 1904, historians have portrayed Inkpaduta as a minor figure. Robinson, on the basis of rather dubious evidence, contended that Inkpaduta was a significant tactical leader during the 1863–1865 fighting between the Sioux and the United States army in Dakota Territory.

Van Nuys not only endorses the Robinson thesis, but grandly expands it. Thus, without substantiation, he describes Inkpaduta as being a virtual latter-day Pontiac or Tecumseh, whose goal in northwestern Iowa was to block the advance of the white agricultural frontier by forging an alliance with the Omaha and some Sisseton Dakota. In the Dakota Territory campaigns, according to Van Nuys, Inkpaduta was not only the key tactician, but the mentor of Sitting Bull and other chiefs as well.

This work would have benefited immensely from rigorous professional editing. Van Nuys has considerable difficulty ascertaining basic factual information, critically assessing sources, and citing accurately and consistently. Overall, the book does little to enhance understanding of either Inkpaduta or the plains Indian wars.

*Herbert Hoover and Franklin Roosevelt: A Documentary History*, edited by Timothy Walch and Dwight M. Miller. Contributions in American History, no. 182. Westport, CT: Greenwood Press, 1998. xxvi, 221 pp. Illustrations, bibliography, index. \$59.95 cloth.

REVIEWED BY MICHAEL J. ANDERSON, CLARKE COLLEGE

This collection traces the relationship between Franklin D. Roosevelt and Herbert Hoover from 1917 to 1945, with the vast majority of the documents pertaining to the period from 1932 to 1945. An able and

concise introductory essay by noted historian Wayne S. Cole traces the evolution of the relationship between two men who "at their time, and in their separate ways . . . were seen as giants in public life" (xvii). A relationship that began with their government service during World War I became cordial and cooperative during the early 1920s, before becoming permanently strained after the campaign of 1932 "left neither man with warm feelings toward the other" (xx). The editors provide an introduction to each of the book's 12 chronological chapters as well as introductions to each document designed to allow the reader to both understand the context and follow the story.

The majority of the documents come from the Herbert Hoover Presidential Library, the Hoover Institution, and the Roosevelt Library. The collection, not surprisingly, thus contributes more to our understanding of Hoover's side of the relationship. This does not mean that the portrait of Hoover is all positive. In fact, one of the real contributions of this volume is that it reveals the degree to which Roosevelt haunted Hoover in the years after 1932, a story that is at once disturbing, sad, and poignant. The remarks prefacing each document are generally helpful, although at times references to other documents add some confusion. In addition, for the crucial period between FDR's election and inauguration, those unfamiliar with banking might find it difficult to understand what is going on. However, these are minor quibbles with a collection that enhances our understanding of these men and their era.

*Flowing through Time: A History of the Iowa Institute of Hydraulic Research*, by Cornelia F. Mutel. Iowa City: Iowa Institute of Hydraulic Research, 1998. xv, 299 pp. Illustrations, map, graph, appendixes, index. \$20.00 paper.

REVIEWED BY DEBBY J. ZIEGLOWSKY BAKER, ATALISSA, IOWA

Connie Mutel has written a rich history of the Iowa Institute of Hydraulic Research, an engineering institute at the University of Iowa dedicated to the study of water and fluid dynamics. Few authors would have broached such an intimidating topic, but Mutel's greatest strength is her ability to translate the complex into the simple. Her descriptions of the institute's projects, such as the river engineering works that protect salmon in the Pacific Northwest and the recent work in hydrometeorology, are comprehensible and jargon-free. In each of three chronological sections she details the biography of a longtime institute director, a compelling cast of strong personalities, and their ac-

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