

Special attention is paid to the accounts of immigrant women, and to questions of race and ethnicity.

The third section focuses on the United States as the point of destination for displaced persons and refugees. Any person interested in the future of Iowa (or of any other state) will do well to read this thought-provoking section.

Songs My Mother Sang to Me: An Oral History of Mexican-American Women, by Patricia Preciado Martin. Tucson: University of Arizona Press, 1992. xxv, 224 pp. Illustrations, index. \$35.00 cloth, \$16.95 paper.

REVIEWED BY DOUGLAS CARLSON, NORTHWESTERN COLLEGE

Hearing voices previously unheard expands and enriches our understanding of the diversity and complexity of the fabric of American society. With the special care that one gives to one's own heritage, Patricia Preciado Martin has made audible the stories of early twentieth-century Mexican-American women in Arizona. She sought to document the lives and memories of ten women from her mother's and grandmothers' generations before they were lost, and also to record their contributions, in part to counteract negative stereotypes of Hispanic women. Her method was to interview her subjects and then edit their accounts into narrative form. The result is a graceful rendering of a way of life now past, presenting a wealth of details about Hispanic border culture.

The foreword and preface provide context for these ten personal recollections. The women interviewed were born between 1904 and 1920, and most spent their lives in southern Arizona. For the most part, they were the wives and daughters of ranchers, cowhands, or miners; they were employed as laundresses, kept boardinghouses, or worked the family farm. They worked hard; their labors were important to the family's economic survival.

Their histories reveal the centrality of family, religion, and community. The words of songs, printed in Spanish and English, expressing religious sentiments or appreciation of family members, appear in nine of the accounts; and each includes family photographs portraying a somber dignity and familial pride. The women generally reveal more about life with their parents than they do of their husbands or children. In fact, the women reveal more about their families than of themselves. While the accounts are rich with details of everyday life, the women are rarely introspective on their lives and their circumstances. One wishes Martin had pressed her

subjects on their attitudes and inner feelings about their roles and the community around them. One would also like to hear more from them about the dynamics of their interaction with the surrounding Anglo culture. There are some tantalizing glimpses, but little more. Even if the scholarly reader would ask for more insight, however, we can nonetheless thank Martin for an engaging, readable, and informative preservation of the memories of a generation of women whose lives and contributions will, in fact, not be lost.

The Kentucky Encyclopedia. Edited by John E. Kleber et al. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky, 1992. xxxiv, 1,045 pp. Maps, bibliographic essay, index. \$35.00 cloth.

REVIEWED BY ROBERT M. TAYLOR, JR., INDIANA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

The production of this impressive volume by the Kentucky Bicentennial Commission capped the statehood celebration in 1992. The roughly two thousand entries, ranging from one hundred to twenty-five hundred words and written by more than five hundred authors, encompass the state's history but emphasize the twentieth century. The particulars are made more significant by the lead historical overview by Thomas D. Clark. The editors' balanced approach allows for general topics, such as "Appalachia," "One-Room Schools," "Moonshine," and "Oral History," to accompany and enrich the multitude of entries on institutions, personalities, and towns. Appended to each city description are the population figures from the three most recent federal censuses. Most entries give at least one bibliographic source. Readers will appreciate the care granted in detailing and in critically assessing subjects.

In order to keep down the book's price, the editors omitted photographs, maps, and other graphics from the text. But this deficiency is more than compensated for by the breadth of the undertaking. Although Iowans may find few direct connections—but see, for example, the entries on David Dale Owen and Annie Fellows Johnston—the historical makeup of Kentucky and the migration patterns in the Midwest encourage the study and enjoyment of reference works from states complementary in so many ways. This Kentucky compilation ranks among the best of the recently published state encyclopedias, and it is a model for future similar projects.

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