analyzing these records, Schwalm exposes the racist underpinnings of Civil War medicine, and how Black bodies were instrumental in the advancement of medical knowledge, often at their own detriment.

Schwalm's work compellingly strengthens historical analysis of race-making, medical history, and the impact of the Civil War. While Schwalm highlights the enduring legacy of Civil War-era racism in healthcare disparities, a deeper exploration of the historical relationship between medicine, science, and broader societal factors could be beneficial, connecting the state-sanctioned race-making project to Civil War-era societal and cultural influences outside of the medical field. Further research in this area could provide a more comprehensive historical narrative. In addition, the ethical implications of using Civil War-era medical data tainted by racism in contemporary medical education could also be explored in further work on the subject.

Overall, *Medicine, Science, & Making Race in Civil War America* is a valuable contribution to the field of Civil War-era history. By exposing the racist underpinnings of wartime medicine, Schwalm compels us to reevaluate our understanding of the era and its lasting impact on healthcare inequities.

The World That Wasn't: Henry Wallace and the Fate of the American Century, by Benn Steil. Council on Foreign Relations. New York: Avid Reader Press, 2024. 687 pp. References, notes, index, illustrations. $40.00 hardcover.

Reviewer Coreen Derifield is an Assistant Professor of History at East Central College.

The World That Wasn't: Henry Wallace and the Fate of the American Century by Benn Steil is an examination of the life and career of Henry A. Wallace and his role in American politics during the mid-twentieth century. The book is thoroughly researched and Steil utilized multiple archives, published government records, and extensive secondary literature in his analysis of Wallace's life. He also includes research from Soviet archives, which provides a fascinating international perspective on Wallace as a politician. Steil argues against recent conceptions of Wallace as a beacon of peace during the hostilities of the Cold War and states that this is a misguided attempt to write an alternate history of the Cold War, and that it does disservice to the realities of Wallace's life. Steil disproves this theory about the "World That Wasn't" by providing a critical analysis of Wallace's political career.

Henry Agard Wallace was born into the successful Wallace family, who started the publication of the famed farm journal *Wallaces' Farmer*.

Steil briefly describes Wallace's childhood in Iowa and depicts the Wallace family as hardy and solid Midwesterners. After attending college, Wallace joined the family business and started the Pioneer Hi-Bred seed company. Wallace had tremendous success as a scientist, and Steil argues that Wallace was a brilliant botanist whose experimentation in hybrid seed increased corn yields for hundreds of farmers. After his success as a scientist, Franklin Roosevelt asked Wallace to join his administration as Secretary of Agriculture. Wallace left Iowa for Washington D.C. in 1932 and spent the remainder of his life outside of the state.

One of the most captivating sections of the book is on Wallace's involvement with Nicholas Roerich, an occultist leader from Russia who began his own flavor of spiritual mysticism in the 1920s and 1930s. Wallace wrote a series of letters to Roerich, in which he expressed his passion for mysticism, and those letters later became a source of embarrassment for Wallace and his family. Steil painstakingly pieces these letters together to create a picture of Wallace's obsession with the Roerich movement and the questionable decisions he made while he was Secretary of Agriculture. In 1940, FDR asked Wallace to serve as Vice President, giving Wallace a front seat to Washington politics during World War II. Wallace traveled to Siberia in the spring of 1944, where he toured the collectivized farms of the Soviet Union. Using Soviet archives, Steil illuminates how the Soviets hid the realities of the labor camps from Wallace's view and successfully duped Wallace into believing Siberia was a communist utopia. When he returned home to the United States in the summer of 1944, he discovered that the Democratic Party had replaced him as FDR's Vice President with a senator from Missouri, Harry Truman. Steil discussed the drama of the 1944 Democratic convention, providing the reader with details on how Harry Truman was chosen by leaders in the Democratic Party as the heir and successor to FDR.

Before his death, FDR appointed Wallace as Secretary of Commerce, where he proceeded to clash with Truman and other Democratic leaders. Wallace eventually resigned as Secretary of Commerce and devoted the next few years of his political career to pursuing the possibilities of peace. Wallace then became influenced by the American Communist Party, and the communists re-started the old Progressive Party and nudged Wallace into pursuing the presidency in 1948 under the banner of a third party. After Wallace's dismal showing in the 1948 election, he retired from political life and continued experimenting with hybrid seeds on a farm in New York state. Later in life Wallace expressed his doubts about the Soviet Union and the Communist Party in the United States, condemning the Soviets for their aggressive actions in the Cold War.

Benn Steil has deftly created a tapestry of the early Cold War around the life of Henry Wallace. While Steil is gifted at recreating the drama of mid-century politics, he also seems distracted by the sensational aspects of Wallace's career. While this makes for very entertaining reading, it detracts from the serious efforts Wallace made in addressing the Great Depression and promoting international peace. Steil paints a picture of Wallace as easy prey of those looking for their own political gain while Wallace's own personal motivations remain murky. The book is a compelling look at Cold War politics, but some of Wallace's important contributions outside of politics are glossed over and given little attention. The book, however, is an engaging and well-written biography of Henry Wallace and vividly places the reader within some of the most historic events of the twentieth century.

Big Time: The History of Bing Ten Basketball, 1972-1992, Murry R. Nelson. Bloomington: Red Lightning Books, 2024. viii, 245 pp. Illustrations, notes, index. $20.00 paperback.

Reviewer Thomas Aiello is a professor of history, Africana studies, and anthrozoology at Valdosta State University. He is the author of over a dozen books, including *Dixieball: Race and Professional Basketball in the Deep South, 1947–1979* (2019) and *Hoops: A Cultural History Basketball in America* (2022).

Murry Nelson's *Big Time* is, in a sense, a sequel to his *Big Ten Basketball, 1943–1972*, continuing the story of the conference in the period after UCLA's long period of dominating the sport. That period was influenced most by Bobby Knight's arrival at Indiana University in the year prior to the study's advent. Knight helped to shift the balance of power in men's college basketball from the West Coast to the Midwest, ushering in a coaching revolution in the heartland that included Michigan State's Judd Heathcoate, Illinois's Lou Henson, and Purdue's Gene Keady.

Stocked with players driven by more aggressive recruiting, the Big Ten began to assert its dominance, with twelve Final Four appearances and five national championships in the twenty-year period. Among those qualifying for the Final Four was Lute Olsen's 1980 Iowa team, which finished fourth in the Big Ten that season but managed through the tournament to complete the Hawkeyes' campaign fourth in the nation. That team was led by guard Ronnie Lester and center Steve Krafcisin, but the Big Ten was littered with talented players during the 1970s and 1980s. Mychal Thompson, Magic Johnson, Mike Woodson, Clark Kellogg, Roy Tarpley, Scott Skiles, Steve Alford, and Glenn Rice all run across the pages of *Big Time*.