

ment. He also follows many of these black pioneers in their emigration to Victoria, British Columbia, in their search for equal protection under the law.

The book is a chronological narrative, but this strength is offset by a loose geographical organization that finds the reader jumping from the mines to the cities to Southern California and back to the northern cities and thence to British Columbia. Perhaps the nature of the source material which Lapp himself observes was "as thinly scattered throughout the usual research resources as the imagination can conceive," (p. 307) made it difficult to find strong organizing threads. The preliminary research was begun in the 1950s and when published under the same title, in greatly abbreviated form, in the *Journal of Negro History* in April, 1964, relied heavily on census data. Lapp has done a thorough job of fleshing out those bare bones with new information from journals, diaries, memoirs, directories, and church records. The material presented here significantly augments and expands the small space Kenneth G. Goode was able to give the gold rush period in *California's Black Pioneers: A Brief Historical Survey* (Santa Barbara, 1974). The broader scope of both W. Sherman Savage's *Blacks in the West* (Westport, Conn., 1976) and William Loren Katz's *The Black West* (Garden City, N.Y., 1973) naturally precludes the kind of detail that Lapp's book displays. Still, he might have taken a lesson from the latter in selecting illustrations if Lapp truly "meant this book for the general reader as much as for the professional historian" (p. xi) as he claims in the preface.

Despite these minor problems, *Blacks in Gold Rush California* is an important contribution to the recovery of the history of blacks in the West, a process that will lead someday to a re-evaluation of the frontier in American culture.

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*Indian-White Relations: A Persistent Paradox*, edited by Jane F. Smith and Robert M. Kvasnicka. Washington, D.C.: Howard University Press, 1976. pp. xx, 278, \$15.00.

Interest in American Indian studies has been manifested in many ways in the last decade. Organizations have sprung to life to promote research and publications of the "Indian side" of American history, to provide a forum for Indian demands for political and economic self determination, and even to stress the virtues of a "back to the blanket" philosophy. Universities and colleges around the country have introduced courses that focus on Indian leadership, cultural traits, and Indian-white relationships. And conferences have been held to acquaint American Indians with their heritage and the challenges they face in a rapidly changing world. In line with this trend, the federal government sponsored a two-day conference in Washington, D.C., in

June of 1972. At this meeting, archival specialists described the Indian-related holdings in the National Archives and a group of scholars presented papers on the evolution of federal Indian policy in the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. The major presentations of that meeting, collected and edited by Jane F. Smith and Robert M. Kvasnicka, appear in *Indian-White Relations*. This provocative volume not only delineates government and collateral resources available for American Indian studies, but also provides suggestions for further investigations in that field.

The book includes thirteen papers delivered at the conference, comments by assigned critics, and highlights of the general discussion following each of the six sessions. Francis Paul Prucha opened the proceedings by urging a rededication to scientific thoroughness, historical accuracy, and critical use of sources in "doing Indian history." Several papers described various types of resource materials available for Indian studies—*i. e.*, documentary (National Archives, Oklahoma depositories) artifacts and pictures (Smithsonian, art galleries), and oral history (Doris Duke Project tapes). The main theme of the conference was reflected in papers dealing with efforts to speed assimilation (Viola, Fritz), the nature and shortcomings of the reservation system (Hagan), another view of the military and the Indian (Utley), and John Collier's attempts to encourage change through traditional tribal institutions (Philp, Kelly).

The comments on the papers were quite illuminating. Robert Berkhofer suggested that nineteenth-century reformers, in their zeal to promote assimilation of the Indian, actually practiced prejudice and discrimination, and that professional philanthropists did more damage than good in supporting assimilation. Loring B. Priest called for more studies of peaceful Indian-white adjustment, of military attitudes toward assimilation, and of contact at the agency level. Remarks by Senapaw, a Creek Indian, and D'Arcy McNickle, commentator at the last session, provided a realistic dimension to the otherwise scholarly atmosphere of the conference. The consensus was that the papers raised more questions than they answered.

Like all conference papers, this set has some shortcomings. Viola's paper on McKenney is vague regarding the location of Brainerd and the "existing schools" which received federal aid to support Indian education. Fritz mentions the Mohonk conference, but does not explain the origins and nature of the meeting. Crampton devotes less than half of his discussion of the Doris Duke Indian oral history project to the nature and fruits of the project itself. Furthermore, as the organizers of the meeting purposely avoided treating the modern Indian scene, there is something old-fashioned and lacking about the proceedings. Six years later, the papers seem somewhat dated.

The volume is tastefully designed and attractively bound. Following the papers are biographical sketches of the participants, a list of National Archives resource papers distributed at the conference, and an index. Enhancing the book are seventeen illustrations (depicting records, artifacts, people and places) and six maps. Combining archival information, solid

papers on federal Indian policy, and ideas for new avenues of research, *Indian-White Relations* will prove to be a valuable addition to the bookshelf of every scholar interested in the American Indian.

—Harwood P. Hinton  
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*Building for the Centuries, Illinois, 1865 to 1898.* By John H. Keiser. Urbana: University of Illinois Press, 1978, for the Illinois Sesquicentennial Commission and the Illinois State Historical Society. pp. xvi, 386. \$12.50.

For approximately a century, the period between the Black Hawk War and the Great Depression, Illinois experienced a spectacular and uninterrupted growth seldom if ever equalled in the nation's expansion. From more places, more people came to Illinois than to any other midcontinental area. Because of the state's location and resources, they attempted and accomplished more, for better or worse. Such growth provides the raw material for superb state and local history.

An often neglected segment of this period is covered by John H. Keiser in brilliantly launching a new series of Illinois histories. His first book is a classic and Keiser establishes himself as a master of the English language as well as an authority on past events and their meaning. He writes easily and blends major events with the commonplace in creating an understandable account of the last third of the nineteenth century, the period after the death of Abraham Lincoln, when Republican orators won public office by "waving the bloody shirt" before Grand Army of the Republic posts.

*Building for the Centuries* equals the high scholarship standards of the first four volumes of the six-volume *Centennial History of Illinois* published in 1918. A half century later, a sesquicentennial commission wisely decided that the first four books, by Clarence W. Alvord, Solon Justus Buck, Theodore Calvin Pease, and Arthur Charles Cole, should be reissued rather than replaced. The final two were found wanting, and three new books were commissioned to cover the period since 1865. Keiser completed his assignment first. The other two will be by Donald F. Tingley and Arvarh E. Strickland.

The title of *Building for the Centuries* comes from a quotation by Governor John Peter Altgeld, one of the author's personal heroes. It implies that the foundations of Illinois are solid and its future optimistic. The immigrants who overcrowded Chicago's slums did so by choice and presumably none wished to backtrack his escape from Europe. The coal miners, railroad crewmen and Pullman workers who lost strike after strike at least laid the foundations for their descendants to become union members. Grangers quickly won their goal of placing railroads under government regulation. Greenbackers and other third parties failed for the moment, but the established Republicans and Democrats became more responsive to rank-and-file sentiment.

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