

served in a sense as a test case for New Deal Indian policies, he does not indicate how the Navajo experience affected policies regarding other tribes.

Although the book would have improved by placing the events described within a broader context, overall it is a valuable scholarly contribution to a previously neglected area of study.

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*Immigrants in the Ozarks: A Study in Ethnic Geography*, by Russel L. Gerlach. Columbia, Missouri: University of Missouri Press, 1976. pp. xiii, 206. Notes, illustrations, tables, appendix, bibliography, index. \$15.00.

The United States has long been known as the "melting pot" of the world's nations. Much attention has been given to the immigrant experience and the process of acculturation and assimilation, but few studies have focused on mid-America. Yet, one region—the Ozark Highland of Missouri—has been the scene of extensive immigration, an area where many cultures have met and mingled. In *Immigrants in the Ozarks*, Russel Gerlach from Southwest Missouri State University has given the region the attention it deserves.

Gerlach's study is well conceived and well written; it is a concise historical-cultural-geographical examination which covers immigration into southern Missouri from the arrival of the first Europeans to the ethnic groups of the present-day. The volume is well balanced, divided into eight chapters. Among the immigrants studied are the Germans, Poles, Swiss, Italians, Mennonites, and Amish. After a brief introduction Gerlach traces the early immigration into the Ozarks. Then in his next three chapters he provides in-depth treatment of German immigrants, including the expansion of their settlements, their agricultural practices, and their religion, language, and general attitudes. Chapters six and seven examine the patterns of settlement of other Europeans and of the Amish and Mennonites, while the last unit contains the author's conclusions.

The major conclusion of the volume is worthy of stress. Gerlach found that a degree of assimilation has occurred in the Ozark Highland, but no major immigrant group could be conveniently considered as part of the "melting pot" stereotype. Those of German stock, for example, still reflect a cultural pluralism. Their society remains distinct in its religion, agriculture, architecture, and the value placed on land and homes.

This definitive study was well researched. Gerlach's primary data included field observations, interviews, census materials, and church records—these sources supplemented by copious secondary works. Forty-five maps and nineteen tables add much to the study as does an appendix dealing with

demographics. In sum, Gerlach has produced an excellent volume which should interest both the geographer and the historian.

—James Smallwood  
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*War, Foreign Affairs and Constitutional Power: The Origins*, by Abraham Sofaer. Cambridge, Massachusetts: Ballinger Publishing Company, 1976.

In *War, Foreign Affairs and Constitutional Power: The Origins*, Abraham Sofaer provides a detailed study of the establishment of the Constitution of the United States, the delegation of constitutional powers, and, especially, the debates regarding the execution of war powers throughout the early years of the nation. Mr. Sofaer tackles "the ongoing debate over powers relating to war by providing the facts relevant to that debate" (p. xiv).

The author presents an overview of the influence of the British constitutional system on the development of the U.S. Constitution. He states that, basically, the colonists favored English principles, but their major complaint was that the British did not abide by many of their own principles, most notably the concept that restricted the amount of power held by any one branch of government. The colonists were especially disgruntled in that these principles, such as the American notion of the English right to live under a constitution, were not observed by the British in relation to colonial government.

The author uses "The Constitution and Its Background" as a prelude to the central theme of the book, that is, the war-making powers of the president of the United States. Mr. Sofaer cites numerous examples of the use of presidential prerogative and presidential power to initiate military action, most notably in the Quasi-War with France during the Adams administration, the withholding of private but highly significant correspondence by Thomas Jefferson and other presidents, "Mr. Madison's War" of 1812, and the acquisition of the Floridas and the Spanish possessions in the Pacific Northwest. The latter developments, especially the War of 1812, illustrate the relationship between U.S. foreign affairs, including trade discrimination, and the initiation of war. During this period, withholding of important information by the executive was tolerated. Many of the presidential actions during this period were usually justified only by ambiguous claims such as the initiation of military action to further the interests of the United States.

The author strongly suggests that decisions made during the first forty years of the Republic have set a strong precedent for events in our more recent history, especially presidential powers exercised by Lyndon B. Johnson and Richard M. Nixon in Indochina. *War, Foreign Affairs and Constitutional Power: The Origins* is the first in a series of three volumes resulting from a study called for by the Assembly and House of Delegates of the Amer-

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