

Students of South Dakota history will be glad to know that Herbert Schell's classic *History of South Dakota* is back. First published in 1961, new editions of the work appeared in 1968 and 1975. Now, a decade after Schell's death, John E. Miller, professor emeritus of history at South Dakota State University, has brought the state's history to the present by adding to Schell's 1975 text two new chapters and a bibliography of recent scholarship.

There is much to commend this book. Schell's text is still an excellent history of the state. Miller's chapters bring insights into South Dakota's story since the start of World War II. Although Iowa and South Dakota have some significant differences in their pasts, they have shared many of the same issues in recent years, including declining rural populations, pressure to consolidate schools, an exodus of young people, and efforts to diversify agricultural economies.

However, Schell's work focuses on political and economic history. Had a scholar produced a new edition of Leland Sage's 1974 *A History of Iowa* by retaining the original text and adding chapters to cover recent events, the result—though valuable—would be similar to this book. Iowa is better served by a new history, Dorothy Schwieder's 1996 *Iowa: The Middle Land*, which incorporated the new perspectives of the varied fields of social history that blossomed in the last half of the twentieth century. There is still room for a new synthesis of South Dakota's history that would do the same.

Irish in Wisconsin, by David G. Holmes. Madison: Wisconsin Historical Society Press, 2004. 91 pp. Maps, illustrations, appendix, bibliography, index. \$9.95 paper.

Reviewer John D. Buenker is professor emeritus of history at the University of Wisconsin–Parkside. He is the author of the *History of Wisconsin*, volume 4, *The Progressive Era, 1893–1914*, and coeditor of a revised and expanded edition of *Multiculturalism in the United States*.

If this tightly written, provocative volume has a major thesis, it is that Wisconsin, a state "so closely associated with the Germans, Scandinavians, and Poles, has more than a wee bit of Gaelic spirit." More concretely, the author attempts to "square the numbers" that show the Irish losing demographic ground to the above groups during the late nineteenth and early twentieth century "with recent studies placing them as the second-largest ethnic group in the state after the Germans" (53–55).

Although David Holmes does not offer any definitive answer to the dilemma of the "Disappearing Irish and Irish Resurgence," he does suggest that Wisconsin Hibernians were more prone than their

compatriots in other states to settle in rural enclaves and engage in agriculture. As a consequence, they tended to be more successful and more readily assimilated. Strangely enough, their assimilation may also have been hastened by their relative failure to dominate in the two ladders of social mobility most utilized by their counterparts: Democratic Party politics and the hierarchy of the Roman Catholic church. By the turn of the twentieth century, more Irish were moving out of the state than into it, and the statistical profile of those who remained was almost identical to that of Wisconsinites in general.

In elaborating his thesis, Holmes divides the book into a dozen sections, each one dealing with a step in the assimilation process and introduced by lyrics from traditional and contemporary Irish songs that link the Wisconsin experience to that of Irish Americans in general. That connection is made even more explicit in the foreword written by famed Irish folk singer Tommy Makem. To illustrate the typical Irish experience in Wisconsin, the author has appended 15 letters written between 1887 and 1908 by six of the nine surviving children of Richard and Anna Cook Goggin, who migrated from County Cork to Waushara County, Wisconsin, in 1855. Taken together, these missives illustrate the persistence of faith and family ties among an otherwise rapidly Americanizing group of siblings.

The Columbia Guide to American Indians of the Great Plains, by Loretta Fowler. New York: Columbia University Press, 2003. vi, 283 pp. Illustrations, maps, chronology, index. \$47.50 cloth.

Reviewer Jacki Rand is assistant professor of history and American Indian and Native Studies at the University of Iowa. Her research interests include native tribes of the southern plains, federal Indian policy and law, indigenous human rights, and the culture of colonialism.

This compact volume offers an informative introduction to the native peoples of the Great Plains from 950 C.E. to the late twentieth century and to the commonly accepted western periodization, with emphasis on the eras of contact and trade with Europeans, American expansion, and the reservation system. The book includes a valuable table of significant terms common to the study of the Plains tribes and histories, a brief overview of the history of anthropological research methods since the late nineteenth century, and a bibliography of primary and secondary sources.

Fowler has earned recognition for her years of experience conducting research in Plains communities and for the resulting body of scholarship, particularly on the Arapahoe tribe. She has relied on her

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