

Iowa's 33 speakers, for example, could probably be represented in 10 to 12 contiguous pages, which would readily allow users to see comparisons or continuums.

Trends can be discerned by using the several concluding appendixes, which largely reflect the opening tables. Even there, however, the lists are alphabetized. Nowhere in the volume can the reader spread full state information right out on the table for quick examination. This must be extracted from the various individual tables, appendixes, and biographical sketches throughout the book. The appendixes do provide a valuable summary and cover party and home county, years of speakership, and legislative pathways to and from the speakership, gender-race-birth-death information, education, religious-military-marital background, occupations, voluntary organizations, and public offices before and after speakership. In other words, the appendixes chart all of the essential information in the biographical sketches in list form, but without a consolidated approach to all the information from one state in one place. This structural flaw is the essential drawback of the volume.

*Legislative Leaders of the Midwest* is a hands-on tool whose value will be determined by its future use by researchers of state politics, the volume's specifically intended audience.

*Wisconsin's Past and Present: A Historical Atlas*, by The Wisconsin Cartographers' Guild. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1998. xv, 123 pp. Illustrations, maps, charts, graphs, bibliography, index. \$39.95 cloth.

*The Atlas of Ethnic Diversity in Wisconsin*, by Kazimierz J. Zaniewski and Carol J. Rosen. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1999. xvii, 235 pp. Illustrations, maps, charts, graphs, bibliography, index. \$65.00 cloth.

REVIEWED BY JOHN D. BUENKER, UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN-PARKSIDE

In his foreword to *Wisconsin's Past and Present*, historian William Cronon avers that a good historical atlas must not only "reveal the complex spatial and environmental relationships people have with each other and with the land," but also suggest "the intricate and often surprising evolution of those relationships over time" (xi). Despite significant differences in purpose, subject matter, and organizational design, both of these superb reference works effectively capture the synergistic interaction among people, place, and time in everything from ethnic population concentration to employment structure, and from encounters

between Native and European Americans to military activity. In the process, the authors brilliantly translate a veritable mountain of statistical and textual data into a visual feast of brightly colored maps, graphs, charts, and pyramids.

*Wisconsin's Past and Present* is the first historical atlas of the state since 1878. It is a priceless educational resource, and a fitting legacy to the state's sesquicentennial. It is also the first major publication of the fledgling Wisconsin Cartographers' Guild, an association of six young Madison-area mapmakers (Marilyn Crews-Nelson, Laura Exner, Michael Gallagher, Zoltan Grossman, Amelia R. Janes, and Jeffrey Maas) with complementary backgrounds in thematic cartography, geography, history, art, and science and with 40 years of collective experience in their craft. As such, the atlas is the embodiment of its authors' guiding philosophy of using modern technology to illuminate the past as a guide to understanding the present.

The atlas is organized into three conceptually based sections—"Peoples and Cultures," "Land and Economy," and "Society and Politics"—each of which contains from 13 to 16 "spreads" on specific topics written and illustrated by one or two authors. "Peoples and Cultures" includes seven "spreads" on various Native American topics, five on diverse European immigrant subjects, and one each on African-American settlement, recent immigrants from Asia and Latin America, immigrant religious patterns, and major Wisconsin cultural figures. "Land and Economy" contains three spreads on natural resources, four on agricultural topics, and six on different aspects of industry and the environment. "Society and Politics" features four spreads on various "boundaries," four on social and political "movements," and five on various aspects of Wisconsin government and politics.

Each of these 42 spreads is a masterful blending of text, maps, and illustrations into a concise and cogent conceptual whole. The spread on "Weather Hazards" features text discussing floods, droughts, fires, and storms; maps of historic disasters in the state, the 1871 Peshtigo fire, and severe twentieth-century droughts; sidebars on flood control dams and the great fires of October 8, 1871; and photographs of areas protected from potential floods and fires. "Becoming German American" includes maps showing areas of German emigration, settlement patterns in 1890, and survivals of German ethnicity in 1940 and 1990; timeline graphs of German immigration to the United States (1845–1890) and the percentage of German-born Wisconsinites (1850–1910); and sidebars on German cultural societies and the German-American Bund, woven together by a discussion of their acculturation and assimilation. "Women's Influence" features comparative maps from the

1930s and 1980s on women in the population, in the workforce, and as farm operators; a map detailing support for woman suffrage during the 1912 referendum vote; sidebars on temperance and baseball; and four photographs of women's activities, integrated by a text discussing social activity, suffrage, rural areas, employment, and feminism. The uses to which this deceptively thin volume can be put are limited only by the imagination of its readers.

Although *The Atlas of Ethnic Diversity in Wisconsin* is designed primarily to illustrate the way things were by 1990, its potential value to historians of migration and ethnicity as a benchmark is inestimable. Almost 150 years ago, journalist John Gregory prophesied in *Industrial Resources of Wisconsin* (1855) that the history of Wisconsin would be written by "heterogeneous masses collected from every quarter of the globe," who would "jar for a moment, like different metals in a furnace" before amalgamating (12-13). While Gregory's "moment" has proven to be of far longer duration, Zaniewski and Rosen present us with the clearest picture to date of the evolution of that process and of its progress by the time of the state's sesquicentennial. In addition, the authors make a concerted effort—in their "Summary of Historical Periods of Migration" (xiii-xiv), in the "Historical Background as Explanation of Spatial Distribution" for each ethnic group, and in their "General Patterns of Ethnic Diversity" (184-87)—to demonstrate their understanding of the critical importance of historical perspective on the relationship between ethnicity and space. Like the Cartographers' Guild, they also provide an extensive bibliography that includes a panoply of historical sources and studies.

Using the primary responses to the "ancestry" question in the 1990 federal census, the authors aggregated data on 62 ethnic groups in Wisconsin, ranging from the 431 persons of Icelandic ancestry to the 2,209,701 of German heritage, distributed throughout the state's 1,328 census tracts. From that data, they "computer-generated" brightly colored, full-page maps for each ethnic group, showing its distribution throughout the state, as well as smaller maps showing its location in Milwaukee County. They also constructed multihued graphs, charts, and pyramids to illustrate each group's urban-rural residence, age-sex structure, educational attainment, nativity and migration period, income level, and employment structure. Each layout also includes easy-to-read tables showing the counties with the highest percentage of that ethnic group and with the greatest number and highest percentage of that group's total in the state. It is hard to see how anyone could produce a more complete and more readily accessible demographic profile of an ethnic group in just two pages.

The layouts on the various ethnic groups are organized into ten chapters based on world regions: Africa, Asia/Pacific Islands, Central and South America, North America, Middle East, and five areas of Europe. Each chapter begins with a brief narrative that includes some historical background, current spatial distribution, and selected socio-economic characteristics. The main section of the book is preceded by a useful introduction discussing the authors' purpose, a summary and brief analysis of historical periods of migration to Wisconsin, an explanation of ethnic group coverage, the sources of statistical data, and the design of the maps and graphics. Equally informative are the three appendixes: a series of bar graphs comparing each group on a wide variety of demographic and socioeconomic criteria; comparative population tables showing each group's numerical total in the state and the nation, as well as population totals for each group by county; and a series of reference maps showing various state subdivisions.

For serious students of immigration and ethnicity, perhaps the most interesting and provocative section is "General Patterns of Ethnic Diversity," in which the authors discuss the apparent discrepancy between the sum total of the ethnic group-specific maps and the patterns shown on two composite maps titled "Predominant Ethnic Group" and "Index of Ethnic Diversity." Although the former suggests that Wisconsin has become "a colorful mosaic of separate ethnic regions, communities, and smaller enclaves or neighborhoods" (184), the latter two show that people of German ancestry are the predominant group in nearly 88 percent of the state's census tracts, while less than 10 percent of those entities score "very low" or "low" in ethnic diversity. Whatever the dominant trend may prove to be, Zaniewski and Rosen demonstrate convincingly that the process of collecting and jarring is still at work in Wisconsin.

*Wisconsin Folklore*, compiled and annotated by James P. Leary. Madison: University of Wisconsin Press, 1999. xviii, 542 pp. Illustrations, maps, bibliography, index. \$69.95 cloth, \$27.95 paper.

REVIEWED BY ROCKY SEXTON, AUGUSTANA COLLEGE

*Wisconsin Folklore* is an anthology that has both breadth and depth. James Leary opens the book with a brief autobiographical preface in which he traces how a "cheesehead" (as he proudly identifies himself) became interested in the academic study of the folklore of his home state. This is followed by a delightful introductory essay on Wisconsin

Copyright of Annals of Iowa is the property of State of Iowa, by & through the State Historical Society of Iowa and its content may not be copied or emailed to multiple sites or posted to a listserv without the copyright holder's express written permission. However, users may print, download, or email articles for individual use.