

## Book Notices

citation of sources; one must work with the acknowledgments, picture credit lines, and a one-page essay on sources.

The fundamental problem with this work is not that the authors are unfamiliar with their topic. Rather they proceed from the misconception that the general principles of station design are easily established and that their task is to present visual examples of the resulting structures. What is needed is a careful analysis of specific cases of station design and construction, relating the ideas of standardization and a combination structure to factors such as the date a particular line was built, the population of the towns along it, competing railroads, and the architectural styles then in vogue. Grant and Bohi have collected a great amount of material on the railroad stations of the upper Middle West; hopefully they will return to the subject in a more carefully prepared, scholarly, and therefore more useful volume.

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*Tales from the Prairie*, Vol. 4, by Dorothy Weyer Creigh. (Hastings, Nebraska: Adams County Historical Society, 1979. 282 pp., illustrations, appendices, index, \$9.95 paper.)

The author, noted for her book, *A Primer for Local Historical Societies*, published by the American Association for State & Local History in 1976, is a founding member of the Adams County Historical Society. The introduction to her book is very enlightening—telling of the history of the Adams County group and how they have moved to one of the best county historical groups in the nation from humble beginnings in 1965. This work consists of thirty-eight stories which appeared in the Adams County *Historical News* from 1977 to 1979. This is the fourth volume in the series and is well illustrated with historic photos. The highly-readable stories cover a multitude of topics ranging from wedding customs to brick-making. A real credit to local history.

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