

possess the narrative quality commonly associated with biography. "Non-members" (the term Reorganites have long used for everyone else) may discern in *Father Figure* clues to the inner past of their RLDS neighbors; but in general they will find it to be an interior story, the plot of which is obscure. For example, the residence of Joseph Smith III and the *True Latter Day Saints Herald* in Lamoni, Iowa, for some twenty years, and the existence of sizable enclaves of the Saints at Lamoni, Council Bluffs, Des Moines, and other Iowa sites are matters of minor concern to this book. (In 1902 Smith removed with the press to Independence, Missouri, which his father had designated in 1831 as "the gathering place.")

*Father Figure* is both institutional and intellectual history, at once synthetic and original. Like most of the work of the New Mormon History of which it is a part, it seeks a middle ground of tone and style that will avoid offending faithful readers at the same time that it provides them new information and interpretations. It comprehends much of the work of recent historians of Mormonism. Indeed, its bibliography is a useful compendium, particularly of writing on the important Succession Question in Mormon history. Launius has made a significant contribution to the emergent understanding of the Reorganized Church with this volume about the administration of its most influential leader.

*Cowtown Lawyers: Dodge City and Its Attorneys, 1876-1886*, by C. Robert Haywood. Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 1988. xiv, 289 pp. Illustrations, notes, appendix, bibliography, index. \$24.95 cloth.

REVIEWED BY LAWRENCE H. LARSEN, UNIVERSITY OF MISSOURI-KANSAS CITY

In fact and fiction, Dodge City, Kansas, is a name associated around the world as the quintessential cattle town. It instantaneously evokes images of the very real Bat Masterson and Wyatt Earp, along with those of the mythical Matt, Kitty, Chester, and Doc of "Gunsmoke" fame. Yet the frontier period of the self-styled "Beautiful, Bibulous Babylon of the Frontier" lasted only ten years, from 1876 to 1886. Afterwards, Dodge City evolved into a successful commercial and transportation center of moderate size (present population around twenty thousand) for the bleak central plains of the western United States. C. Robert Haywood, in his new book, *Cowtown Lawyers*, analyzes the development of the colorful community in its frontier days, from its inception as a military base and buffalo hide shipping center,

through its famous role as a cattle-trail town, to its status as a settled and mature community.

Haywood, a professor at Washburn University in Topeka and an authority on Kansas history, demonstrates that lawyers played an instrumental role in Dodge City. "For the rank and file of cowtown lawyers, their legacy, like that of the town itself, was being there," Haywood writes. "In performing their assigned duties as counselors, barristers, and court functionaries, they kept as a clear goal the vision and reality of the justice system as a bulwark of fairness, order, and community conscience—a goal well within the grasp of the frontier settlement." While schoolteachers and preachers played symbolic roles in ending the frontier experience, attorneys did the actual work that led to a civilizing process.

Throughout Dodge City's cowtown days, a small bench and bar afforded a degree of continuity. Police courts, usually with a non-lawyer judge, were quite casual. The county and state district courts, presided over by lawyers, attempted to follow established rules and procedures, especially in capital cases. However, juries sometimes acquitted popular defendants, no matter how conclusive the evidence against them. Lawyers, as townspeople expected, dominated the political scene. One faction, called "The Gang," which dominated city and county politics, supported the concept of a wide-open town. In contrast, a group of "reformers" stood for "progress," meaning the end of the illicit activities of frontier days. Even though both factions contained people from various walks of Dodge City life, lawyers held key leadership roles. Inevitably, the reformers won, when at the end of the cowtown era the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe Railroad linked a commitment to make Dodge City a major division point with a suppression of community vice. During and after the frontier era, Dodge City lawyers not only engaged in politics and performed their professional duties, but also engaged in a wide range of entrepreneurial pursuits, especially in land development and newspaper enterprises.

At first glance, Haywood's book, based on difficult-to-use court and newspaper sources, has little relationship to frontier Iowa, which experienced no cowtown environment. Yet *Cowtown Lawyers* raises important questions about the role of lawyers in the frontier civilizing process. For example, most of the members of the first Nebraska territorial legislature were attorneys from Iowa. For that matter, very little has been done on the Hawkeye state legal fraternity, let alone on the role of Iowa lawyers as agents of an advancing civilization. What—if anything—did lawyers contribute to the building of early Ottumwa and Cedar Rapids?

In short, *Cowtown Lawyers* is an excellent study that adds to an understanding of the frontier experience, raising questions for further investigation in studying the impact of the legal profession within the larger context of western development.

*Iowa Pharmacy, 1880-1905: An Experiment in Professionalism*, by Lee Anderson. Iowa City: University of Iowa Press, 1989. ix, 177 pp. Illustrations, appendix, notes, index. \$22.00 cloth.

REVIEWED BY KEACH JOHNSON, EMERITUS, DRAKE UNIVERSITY

Lee Anderson, a former pharmacist who received a Ph.D. in history from the University of Iowa in 1987, has made an important contribution to our knowledge and understanding of Iowa history by writing a sophisticated account of an important but little-known subject. Readable and scholarly, *Iowa Pharmacy* is clearly and gracefully written, thoroughly researched, analytical and interpretive, and sound and sure-footed in content and interpretation. It is a compact volume, lean and muscular, closely reasoned and tightly organized. The book is broader in meaning and scope than its title suggests, including physicians as well as pharmacists in its analysis of the growth of Iowa's health care system and examining the origin and nature of professionalism in the process.

Anderson opens with a lively description of public health in frontier Iowa, where the scattered population, prevalence of self-medication, confused and uncertain state of medical knowledge, and popular distrust of elitism rendered professionalism difficult if not impossible. Conditions soon changed, however; the passing of the frontier, rapid settlement and growth, higher living standards, and mounting public pressure for state regulation of the problems of an emerging industrial society opened the door to professionalization in the 1870s. Seizing upon the awakening health consciousness of Iowans and their growing faith in medical science, "elites" in the Iowa State Medical Society and the newly formed Iowa State Pharmaceutical Association (ISPA) persuaded the Eighteenth General Assembly to enact two landmark pieces of regulatory legislation in 1880. One created the State Board of Health consisting of seven physicians to protect and improve public health in Iowa. The second law reserved to registered pharmacists the exclusive right to compound or dispense physicians' prescriptions or to retail dangerous drugs for medical use and set up a State Commission of Pharmacy comprising three pharmacists to examine and certify applicants for registration.

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