

Growing Up in the Midwest

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Book Notices

theorist, pictures Hoover as a conservative traditionalist, transcendentalist, and pluralist seeking true enlightenment and progress through liberty and spiritual awakening.

Hawley's volume does not attempt to provide a comprehensive view of Hoover's activities as secretary of commerce; it does not treat Hoover's policies toward social welfare, urban development, transportation and communication, or resource development and management. The essays, although well documented, may be too imbalanced toward revisionist scholarship. In addition, this reviewer does not always agree with the assumptions made or conclusions reached by the writers. Nevertheless, this fine book provides a fresh perspective and enhances considerably our understanding of both the New Economic Era and Secretary of Commerce Hoover.

WILLIAM PENN COLLEGE

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Growing Up in the Midwest, edited by Clarence A. Andrews. (Ames: Iowa State University Press, 1981. pp. 215, photographs, \$12.95 cloth.)

Professor Andrews has brought together the words of twenty-two writers, nearly all well-known and widely published in magazines, newspapers, and journals. They reflect a wide range of experiences—professors, farmers, housewives, editors, a radio disc jockey, and numerous ethnic groups including blacks, a Greek, a Scotswoman, Native Americans, and one man whose father was a Jewish cantor. Among the authors represented are three Pulitzer Prize winners, a National Book Award winner, honorary degree holders from prestigious universities, and writers whose works have been made into plays and films. They range from the poetic words of James Hearst to the prose of McKinlay Kantor, Edna Ferber, and Ruth Suckow. Clarence Andrews, himself a very prolific writer and literary scholar, illustrates that the Middle West is more than a physical location, it is more of a region of the heart. This handsome volume gives a sense of what being a midwesterner is all about through the words of its native sons and daughters. A nice companion volume to Andrews' earlier work, *Growing Up In Iowa*, also published by Iowa State University Press.

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