Forts and Supplies: the Role of the Army in the Economy of the Southwest, 1846-1861

Recommended Citation
Available at: https://doi.org/10.17077/0003-4827.9062

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study of careers in a local setting. Even for those not concerned with classroom training in local history, these four chapters provide an excellent review of the literature; the authors present their reports in terms novices can understand and experts will appreciate.

Metcalf and Downey conclude with an itemized list of procedures related to the day-to-day business of running a local history course, and emphasize the kinds of preparatory work needed to better the odds for success in the classroom. I wish I had had benefit of their counsel before I ventured forth into a room full of students eager to tell the stories of their forebears. Using Local History in the Classroom is a valuable book; the authors and their publisher deserve much thanks.

AMES, IOWA

WILLIAM SILAG

Book Notices


This work is full of new information, new interpretations, and new insights. The author, a professor at the University of Toronto, depicts women’s environment and social structure even though restricted to sources written primarily by men. She shows that Indian women, married to white fur traders, were not mere sexual servants, but aided in the entire fur-trade movement. White women arriving on the nineteenth-century frontier could not readily compete with the Indian women. The Canadian fur trade would have grown at a much slower rate had it not been for its “many tender ties.” This book will stand as the forerunner of all studies of the role of women in fur-trading society.


For fifteen years prior to the Civil War, the American army was the major force in the Southwest’s economic development. By establishing military forts, the army encouraged the expansion of settlement, agriculture, ranching, and mining. Military purchases of services and locally produced goods introduced much larger sums of
cash in the Southwest and resulted in a notable increase in production. This is the first book-length study of the economic impact of the military in the American Southwest during the early years of United States occupation. It is a high quality production, typical of those by the University of New Mexico Press.

_The Shawnee Prophet_, by R. David Edmunds. (Lincoln: University of Nebraska Press, 1983. 260 pp., illustrations, maps, notes, bibliography, index, $16.95 cloth.)

The author, a professor of history at Texas Christian University and winner of the 1978 Francis Parkman Prize for his stunning book, _The Potawatomis: Keepers of the Fire_, has gone against the grain of historical scholarship in his latest book. Taking an ethnohistorical approach to explain revivalist religious movements and charismatic religious leaders among the American Indians, he shows that Tecumseh, or the Prophet, was more influential than his brother Tecumseh in the development of the Indian resistance movement in the Old Northwest of the early 1800s. The Prophet, according to Edmunds, was not a charlatan, but rather the real leader behind the cohesion of the tribes before the Battle of Tippecanoe. This is a fascinating thesis written in an excellent style and a "must" for students of American Indian culture.

_Blazing Crosses in Zion: The Ku Klux Klan in Utah_, by Larry R. Gerlach. (Logan: Utah State University Press, 1982. 248 pp., illustrations, appendixes, notes, index, $17.50 cloth, $7.95 paper.)

To most people the KKK is a southern organization, but this impressive volume is a model study of the Ku Klux Klan in the Great Basin states. While the book concentrates on the KKK activity in the 1920s, it also treats the resurgent Klan of the 1970s and 1980s. The author drew his painstaking research from a variety of sources including over one hundred interviews. Of special interest are the author's accounts of Klan activity on the town and county levels, portraits of individual Klan members, and an explanation of how Mormonism imparted a unique dimension to Utah Klankraft.

_The Making of a Ranger: Forty Years with the National Parks_, by Lemuel A. Garrison. (Salt Lake City: Howe Brothers, 1983. 310 pp., illustrations, $19.95 cloth, $10.95 paper.)

This autobiography reads like a work of John Muir, filled with selected accounts of the great American wilderness. Garrison held