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Book Reviews

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BOOK REVIEWS

North American Cattle-Ranching Frontiers: Origins, Diffusion and Differentiation, by Terry G. Jordan (University of New Mexico Press, 1720 Lomas Boulevard, N.E., Albuquerque, NM 87131-1591) 1993. Maps. B&W Photos. Notes. Selected Annotated Bibliography. Index. P. 439.

Was the North American cattle kingdom born in Texas? Historical geographer Terry Jordan answered this question by searching for the origins in Iberian Spain, the British Highlands, and Sub-Saharan West Africa as far back as the 1400s. These cattle frontiers were implemented and adapted in the West Indies and then migrated to Mexico, South Carolina, and French Louisiana. Once on American soil, the Texas, California, and Midwest frontiers were born and competed against one another. In Jordan's opinion, "the chauvinistic defenders of South Texas as the nursery bed of the western cattle industry and of tejanos as the agents of diffusion have greatly overstated their case" (p. 158).

Regarding Texas, Jordan believes that the British cattle frontier went through the Carolinas and Ohio Valley, arriving in East Texas prior to the Mexican War, to compete against a weak Hispanic cattle frontier. This argument has merit. Far less convincing is the opinion that Louisiana had a greater legacy than Texas in that Hispanic frontier. The author believes that the Midwest, California, and Texas were significant during the North American cattle frontier, but, "the Anglo-Texas contribution to the cattle ranching industry, spectacular and colorful though it was, remained largely confined to certain parts of the West, and in the long run, proved less substantial than that derived from the Ohio Valley and Midwest" (p. 210).

After a chapter on the California ranching culture, the book warns against the idea that a single cattle frontier occurred in North America and concludes that the cattle frontier originated from many diverse origins with unique and accidental characteristics. The Midwest frontier emerged victorious over the Texan and California ranching frontiers. Certainly, for East Texas, the British inspired, Anglo-Celtic cattle herding, Midwest-Southern frontier made more sense. After all, Texas agricultural science, closely related to the cattle frontier, had important elements of Midwestern-Southern ancestry.

Did environmental determinism—the idea that the physical setting determine human activity—apply to ranching? Walter Prescott Webb's classic *The Great Plains* answered affirmatively; Jordan disagrees. Years ago, Jordan's views would have been an attack upon a sacred cow. Likewise, intensifying this historical debate, Jordan disagrees with Frederick Jackson Turner that ranching resulted from the American frontier.

This study invites us to think about the importance of the South,

Midwest, and West in Texas, to think about the significance of Texas in United States history, and to think about agriculture and ranching. Fun to read and stimulating, *North American Cattle-Ranching Frontiers* possesses food for thought, especially for lovers of Texas history, in Chapter 7. This book will enrich and entertain minds that seek an interesting story or that want to debate these important historical issues.

Irvin M. May Jr.
Blinn College at Bryan

Historic Ranches of Texas, by Lawrence Clayton and J.U. Salvant
(University of Texas Press, P.O. Box 7819, Austin, TX 78713-7819)
1993. B/W & Color Sketches. Artist's Notes. Bibliography. P. 93.
\$24.95 Cloth.

Early on, Lawrence Clayton warns revisionists that they won't find much material in his book. Then not two paragraphs deep in his commentary, the origins of the name of the Four Sixes Ranch is blown out of the tub: the ranch wasn't named after a winning poker hand, but because owner Burk Burnett bought a herd of cattle with the "6666" brand already on it.

Thereafter, revisionists won't find much. Otherwise Clayton sticks to accepted facts about the twelve operations chosen as representative of the great ranches that developed in Texas after the Civil War. Most – the XIT, Green, Matador, Four Sixes, Pitchfork, Swenson, Wagonner, and Lamshead ranches – are located in western North Texas and the Panhandle. The others, Iron Mountain, Y.O., King, and Yturria ranches, are in South and Southwest Texas.

To succeed, operators had to be tough, smart, tenacious, and lucky. Discovery of oil helped many. Clayton's explanation of how the economic challenges were met is interesting reading.

J.U. Salvant, an Austin artist, traveled thousands of miles to find the scenes depicted in her watercolors that enhance this book.

The Wagonner Ranch near Vernon probably best reflects the mixture of nineteenth-twentieth-century technologies found on Texas ranches. This ranch in 1953 was the first to use helicopters to round up cattle and ride fence. But the chuck wagon was used on roundups until early in the 1970s.

The book is an excellent mixture of sound writing by Clayton and lively depiction by Salvant.

Mike Kingston
Grand Prairie, Texas

The Finishing Touch, by Charles E. Ball (Texas Cattle Feeders Association, 5501 West I-40, Amarillo, TX 79106) Appendix. Notes. Bibliography. Index. Black & White & Colored Photographs. P. 191. \$35.00 Hardcover.

A pictorial history of the Texas cattle feeding industry and the Texas Cattle Feeders Association has been written by former Executive Vice President Charles Ball, of the TCFA. Demonstrating excellent abilities in communications, public relations, and promotion, the author also impressively researched this subject. Yet the first two chapters were too anecdotal with erratic chronology. A good chapter about big Texas feedlots focused logically on the Texas Panhandle but included activities in Kilgore, Houston, Oklahoma, and New Mexico. Readers will gain insight into the relationship between meat packers and the feed lots.

From the feed lot industry's historical perspective, important chapters concern government legislation, entrepreneurs, and economic boom followed by the wreck in the 1970s, and concludes with events to 1992. The chapter about agricultural science and technology, including scientists from Texas A&M and Texas Tech, was one of the best! The author perceptively identified the major issues facing Texas cattle feeders and skillfully, if uncritically, narrated the history of the Texas Cattle Feeders Association. Major TCFA leaders and members received well-deserved historical recognition. Beautiful and appropriate photographs enhanced the book.

The Finishing Touch is a significant contribution to Texas agricultural history and should be in the library of all Texans who like cattle.

Irvin M. May Jr.

Blinn College at Bryan

Horse Confirmation as to Soundness and Performance, by Ben K. Green (Northland Publishing Co., P.O. Box N. Flagstaff, Ariz. 86002) Revised Edition, 1991. Illustrations. P. 80. \$12.95.

Before his death in 1974, Ben K. Green had established a reputation as an authority on horses as well as an author with a devoted following. Eighteen years later his reputation has taken on legendary proportions, his following has grown, and his books are still being printed.

Horse Confirmation, now in its eighth printing, is gaining wider acceptance in academic ranks as the authoritative yardstick in judging exactly what the title says. This, in spite of the controversy that still surrounds Ben's professional accreditation among veterinarians and those who teach veterinary medicine. Whether the "Dr." in front of his name was

self-imposed or earned is becoming less significant with the passage of time. What is gaining appreciation is that Ben K. Green spent a lifetime in developing a sound rationale and a thorough understanding of what makes a good horse. He published his findings in 1969 and these first-edition hardcovers now command a good price on the rare book lists.

Green states that the primary purpose of this book is to "illustrate the horse as an animal of living, mechanical perfection." Later he states that the book was written with the performance horse in mind. The author then describes in detail the functions of the major parts of the horse and explains why certain features and characteristics are desirable over others. He concludes with several illustrated pages of horse tooth wear and configuration as a manual for determining the age of horses.

Anyone interested in horses and certainly anyone owning one should have a copy of *Horse Confirmation* in his library. It is recommended for college and university animal husbandry collections, if for no other reason than to provide a basis for comparison with what other experts say on the subject.

Robert Glover
Tyler, Texas

The Color of Horses: The Scientific and Authoritative Identification of the Color of the Horse, by Ben K. Green (Northland Publishing Co., P.O. Box N. Flagstaff, Ariz. 86002) Fifth printing, 1991. Illustrations. P. 127. \$17.95.

By the time Ben K. Green was in the fourth grade he was an active horse trader. He claimed that for the first thirty years of his life saddling and riding a horse was a daily routine. Throughout these early years he heard many old-timers declare that certain horse colors were associated with certain physical characteristics of horses. Later, he decided that if he was to be a practicing veterinarian he needed to learn if there was any truth to this color-coding.

After years of painstaking laboratory research, Green discovered that the hairs of a horse are actually clear as well as hollow. Further he learned that the pigmentation that gives horse hair its color is found in the dermis layers of horse hide and is always a dark amber color. After further study he concluded that it was the migrating pigmentation pattern within the hollow hair shaft and the resulting reflection of light that determined the color of horses.

Aside from the scientific findings that Ben discloses, the book is a

work of art in its own right. Therein are found thirty-four beautiful paintings by artist Darol Dickerson. Each painting depicts the standard horse color and self-colors; each division listing, with illustrations, a dozen or more standard colors or, shades of color, of horses. For example, Green identifies no less than six sorrel shades, each with a distinctive hair pigment pattern.

Every horse aficionado should have this book for its beautiful artwork alone. It is certainly a book of a different color. Recommended for general interest and for animal husbandry collections at all levels.

Robert Glover
Tyler, Texas

A Cowman's Wife, by Mary Kidder Rak (Texas State Historical Association, 2/306 Sid Richardson Hall, University Station, Austin, TX 78712) 1993. Introduction by Sandra L. Myres. Illustrations. Index. P. 301. \$19.95 Paper. \$29.95 Cloth.

The reprint of Mary Kidders Rak's book about life as a ranchwoman in Arizona beginning in 1919 is welcomed especially at a time when books about ranchwomen and cowgirls, both reprints and new works of fiction and non-fiction, are coming off the presses in significant numbers these days. The interest in women of the West is concurrent with both the renaissance and revival of all matters Southwestern and Western. Rak's book is clearly more worthy than some, past or present. Not only does she richly detail learning the cattle business, coping with drought and Depression, but she speaks as well of the panorama of the landscape, the joys of her existence on the 22,000-acre spread known as Old Camp Rucker Ranch.

The book is in a class by itself, however, not because of what she has to tell but because Rak can write. Complete with appropriate use of dialogue, solid construction and story progression, strong and memorable characters, conflict and suspense, Rak employs the techniques of a novelist. First published in 1934, the book was praised by J. Frank Dobie and Jeff Dykes.

The book features an introduction by the late Sandra L. Myres which makes the work even more valuable. Myres links Rak's writing to present-day studies of ranchwomen and cowgirls and offers reasons for their importance. I am of the opinion that ranchwomen and cowgirls occupy the same niche as ranchmen and cowboys. They are among the few authentic American folk heroes and heroines. Myres' essay helps make the case.

Black and white illustrations which appear to be from the original enhance the volume and make real the information in each chapter.

Joyce Roach
Keller, Texas

Women and Texas History, Selected Essays, edited by Fane Downs and Nancy Baker Jones (Texas State Historical Association, 2/306 Richardson Hall, Austin, TX 78712-9820) 1993. Keynote Essay by Elizabeth Fox Genovese. P. 182. \$14.95 Paper.

Women and Texas History is a collection of thirteen essays presented at the Texas State Historical Association's conference by the same name in 1990. The book was written for the general reader as well as students and educators. In the foreword, Nancy Baker Jones writes that such a publication would not have been possible in 1980. She says that the study of women in Texas history began only recently despite the fact that Mary Austin Holley published the first known history of Texas in English in 1836. Scholars are pulled to the magnetism of Texas history but have only recently taken a closer look at the important role that women played.

Fane Downs notes in an introduction that the thirteen essays were presented in a conference format, and that the collection is not balanced ethnically or chronologically but does begin to focus on the history of Texas women in the twentieth century. A great number of writings in the past have dealt with the history of Texas women in the nineteenth century. Initial readings in the collection seem somewhat disjointed and slow to spark interest, but the publication is well worth the effort to learn more about the strength and the history of Texas women, many of whom have received little recognition in the past.

In a keynote essay, Elizabeth Fox Genovese describes how the study of the history of Texas and its broad complexity can give a view of the impact that different groups of women have made historically, socially, and politically. Understanding the role that Texas women such as Ann Richards, Barbara Jordan, Sissy Farenthold, and Sarah Weddington have played can give a sense of the roles women have played in history not only in Texas, but in the United States and worldwide.

The study of Texas history brings to light that many of these women were active in women's groups and the importance of the work of these groups in bringing about change. Jacquelyn McElhaney tells about the active role Sara Isadore Sutherland played in the Progressive Era through her writings for the Dallas Morning News and the Galveston News from 1893 to 1916. Writing under the pen name Pauline Periwinkle, Sutherland

saw the importance of the efforts of the women's club and strongly promoted the need for a public library to the newly formed Dallas Federation of Women's Clubs in 1899. She was a strong voice for the education of women and the rights of children. Through her newspaper column, she fought for a juvenile court system, as well as police matrons and playgrounds! Working within the political system, the women's clubs played a key role in seeing the juvenile courts bill passed in 1907. It is difficult to imagine that it was necessary for women to be crusaders for playgrounds. Until such efforts as those led by Pauline Periwinkle brought about change, parks were designed without regard to children. There was no playground equipment; instead, there were "Keep off the grass" signs. Periwinkle's efforts, along with the City Federation of Women's Clubs resulted in the first "play park" in Dallas in 1909.

As Judith N. McArthur describes in her essay, "Saving the Children: The Women's Crusade Against Child Labor, 1902/1918," the role of Texas women in enforcing child labor legislation was major, although they were unable to vote or hold political office. In Paul M. Lucko's essay, "The 'Next 'Big Job''": Women Prison Reformers in Texas, 1918/1930," it is noted that the Texas Federations of Women's Clubs mounted a strong campaign for prison reform in 1918. They wanted not only humane treatment of convicts, but rehabilitation. By 1922, a Joint Legislative Council was formed and referred to as the "petticoat lobby." The fact that Elizabeth Speer served as executive secretary to the board gave women a more active voice regarding the prison system.

"Professional, Feminine, and Feminist: Annie Webb Blanton and the Founding of Delta Kappa Gamma," an essay by Debbie Mauldin Cottrell, describes the issue of professionalism for women teachers. Women fighting for acceptance as educators, against low pay and forced resignation when they married. Blanton was involved in the fight for women's rights in the suffrage movement. She served as a TSTA leader and was the first woman elected to a statewide office in Texas as the State Superintendent of Public Instruction in 1918. Goals included work for teacher's retirement and pay equity ... goals still relevant in 1993.

"Bonnet in the Ring: Minnie Fisher Cunningham's Campaign for Governor of Texas in 1944," an essay by Patricia Ellen Cunningham, describes Cunningham's opposition to Governor Coke Stevenson. She ran on a platform to put strength and resources behind Texas men and women serving in World War II. She received strong support from women's groups across the state. She accomplished her major goal ... keeping Coke Stevenson from taking control of the Texas delegation in Chicago in an effort to unseat President Franklin Roosevelt!

Diana Davids Olien's essay, "Domesticity and the Texas Oil Fields: Dimensions of Women's Experience, 1920/1950," presents the woman's role in this important piece of Texas history. Some women worked as waitresses, nurses, or teachers, but due to frequent moves, women most often found themselves in a domestic role. They were responsible for making a home for their families in housing arrangements that were often substandard. Women continued to function in the domestic role with the husband working as provider and no encouragement for the wife's economic contribution.

This review covers only a few of the thirteen essays in the collection. The major contribution of the publication is seeing the impact that women's groups, not just individual women, play in Texas history.

Debra B. Berry
Nacogdoches, TX

Border Wars of Texas, by James T. DeShields (State House Press, P.O. Box 15427, Austin, TX 78761) 1993. B&W Photographs. List of Illustrations. Index. P. 394. \$29.95 Cloth.

James Thomas DeShields moved to Bell County, Texas, from Louisiana at the end of the Civil War. After attending Salado College and Baylor University, DeShields collected books and photographs and wrote articles for the Fort Worth *Gazette*. His *Frontier Sketches* was published in 1883 and his popular *Cynthia Ann Parker* appeared in 1886. For most of his life DeShields gathered stories of frontier Texas, especially the confrontation between settlers and Indians in the period from 1819 to 1870. In 1912 his *Border Wars of Texas* was published. After moving to Dallas, DeShields wrote *The Fergusons: "Jim and Me," Tall men with Long Rifles*, and eight years before his death at the age of eighty-six in 1948, *They Sat in High Places*.

If written today, much of DeShields' history would be considered "politically incorrect." He clearly saw Texas history as little more than a struggle between savage Indians and righteous pioneers. In fact, DeShields subtitled his *Border Wars of Texas*, "an Authentic and Popular Account, in Chronological Order, of the Long and Bitter Conflict waged Between Savage Indian Tribes and the Pioneer Settlers of Texas" and "the Wrestling of a Fair Land From Savage Rule, A Red Record of Fierce Strife."

What makes *Border Wars of Texas* so valuable today is that accounts of many of the incidents and documents detailed in the book exist nowhere else. A considerable amount of primary source material would simply have been lost had it not been for DeShields. Biographers of Cynthia Ann

Parker, Matilda Lockridge, Jim Bowie, Stephen F. Austin, Sam Houston, Mirabeau B. Lamar, Albert Sidney Johnston, Jack Hays, and Henry and Ben McCulloch would all use DeShields. Although he saw them as savages, his stories of the Karankawa, Cherokee, Comanche, Kickapoo, and Waco also are valuable.

DeShields blatant prejudices must be considered in the context of which they were conceived. We are thankful for his efforts and we are grateful to State House Press for their continued effort in making rare Texana available to us all.

Jerry Thompson
Texas A&M International

The Fire-Eaters, by Eric H. Walther (Louisiana State University Press, Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70893) 1992. Illustrations. Black and White Photographs. Bibliographical Essay. Index. P. 333. \$39.95 Hardcover.

Eric Walther has carefully researched the careers of nine ante-bellum Southern Zealots to describe "the unity and diversity of people and ideas within the secession movement." In doing so, he demonstrates their variety of backgrounds: rich and poor, planters and city-born, "self-made and with inherited wealth," "elitist and democratic," and both with and without slaves. Their key point of agreement was their unyielding belief that "preserving southern liberty and a truly republican society depended on forming a southern republic."

The nine Fire-eaters all "thought secession was the only solution" for the South: Nathaniel Beverly Tucker, a legal scholar who insisted that "correct constitutional opinions and sound maxims should be implanted" in his students' minds; William Lawndes Yancey, who argued "I am a secessionist, not a revolutionist;" John Anthony Quitman, the Mississippian who was "sick to death of compromise" shortly before his death; Robert Barnwell Rhett, the unyielding South Carolinian who announced for all to hear, "others may submit, I will not;" Louis T. Wigfall, whose career in Texas made him the only individual in the group with Lone Star experience, earned the nickname of "Waggletail" from Sam Houston, but assured his Republican antagonists in the Senate that he would burst the Union "into more fragments than gunpowder would blow glass;" J.D.B. DeBow, the zealous voice for economic diversity in Dixie, who loved his section as deeply as anyone and whose criticism of its lack of industry equalled his devotion; Edmund Ruffin, the proud old Virginian, who lived – and died by suicide – with the dream of Southern independence; and William Porcher Miles, an intellectual from Charleston who helped create

an independent nation in the South and survived its defeat until the end of the century.

This thoroughly annotated work describes how the dream of an independent South was born at least a generation before its fruition and was centered first in Virginia and the South Carolina Low Country. Its spokesmen matured during a generation of sectional antagonism and always claimed their fondness for the republic of "our forefathers." Their zeal first was heard in the Nullification crisis and became prominent again in 1850. Then, the following decade included the ebb and flow of the tireless oratory and writings – until the election of a Northern Republican president in 1860 gave them an opportunity to assume leadership in Dixie.

This volume makes a solid contribution to a better understanding of the origins of secessionism and its leaders. Unfortunately, the organization of its contents into mini-biographies instead of a continuous narrative of the movement for an independent South, prevented the presentation of a more complete study of how a comparatively small group of men worked for a generation to create a new nation – which they argued was necessary to "preserve basic American values." Hopefully, that study will be Walther's next book.

Haskell Monroe
University of Missouri-Columbia

Decision in the West: The Atlanta Campaign of 1864, by Albert Castel (University Press of Kansas, 366 Watson Library, Lawrence, KS 66044) 1992. Black & White Photographs. Maps. Afterword. Appendixes. Notes. Bibliography. Index. P. 665. \$29.95 Cloth.

Decision in the West was written to produce a new study from "the enormous quantity and variety of sources that have become available" (p. xii) since the publication, in 1882, of Jacob D. Cox's *Atlanta*. Albert Castel considers *Atlanta* the only legitimate historical work that covers the entire Atlanta Campaign of 1864. By incorporating insights of other historians and by using a massive collection of historical records, manuscripts, newspapers, and personal accounts of soldiers, the author has succeeded in developing a detailed history of the battles, strategies, victories, and blunders of the armies and their leaders.

Devoting a chapter to each month from January through September, with the Fall of 1864 serving as the final chapter, the book describes the events of the campaign and their relative importance to the Civil War as a whole. Through a "fog of war" style of writing, Castel allows the reader to perceive everything through the minds of the Confederate and Union

commanders. New accounts of the campaign's battles have been included because of the diversity and discrepancies of the old interpretations. Especially engrossing are the reactions of commanders who have been ordered to assault the enemy's entrenchments, resulting in many deaths for the charging army and rarely capturing the intended ground. By analyzing various reports, the author discussed how the Confederate strategy to win by not losing failed. Also proven is how Union Commanding General William T. Sherman was not the superb military strategist many previous works have believed him to be. Castel justifies his harsh depiction of Sherman from the detailed accounts that describe the way Sherman did and did not react to certain situations. By objectively analyzing the results of the battles and the strengths and weaknesses of the various commanders, Castel has created a work that will be used in future discussions of the Atlanta Campaign of 1864.

Christopher Spaid
Smithsburg, Maryland

For the Sake of My Country: The Diary of Col. W.W. Ward, 9th Tennessee Cavalry, Morgan's Brigade, C.S.A., edited by R.B. Rosenberg (Journal of Confederate History Series, V. Vol. VIII, Southern Heritage Press, P.O. Box 1615, Murfreesboro, TN 37133) 1992. Appendix. Bibliography. Index. P. 164. \$12.00 Paper.

Captured in 1863 during John Hunt Morgan's daring raid into Ohio, Confederate Colonel W.W. Ward spent his first days as a prisoner on the move. He first was taken to the city jail in Cincinnati where he spent two days. From Cincinnati, Ward and the rest of Morgan's men were taken to Johnson Island on Lake Erie for four days, then moved to the state penitentiary in Columbus. After eight months of incarceration, Morgan and six of his men escaped on November 27, 1863. Ward remained in the Columbus jail until March 1864 when he and the rest of Morgan's men were transferred to the Federal prison at Fort Delaware, located on Pea Island in the Delaware River. It was there that Ward put pencil to paper to chronicle his ordeal.

The events that Ward recorded while incarcerated demonstrate the grinding monotony of life as a prisoner on the island. The battle for southern Virginia, as well as travel and everyday life in the Confederacy, is illustrated well by his entries until the record ends on April 6, 1865 just three days before Robert E. Lee surrendered his army to Ulysses S. Grant.

Rosenburg has done outstanding work in editing Ward's diary. The prologue contains a good biographical sketch of Ward that helps the reader

better understand the man who penned the words. The footnotes are meticulously done and give insight into Ward's experiences and travels by providing key information on people, places, and events mentioned in the text. In the appendix, Rosenberg included some of Ward's correspondence that the reader should find both interesting and useful.

Rosenberg should be complimented for his effort in putting together a work that anyone with an interest in Civil War history will enjoy.

Chris Wayt
White Oak, Texas

Texas? What Do You Know About the Lone Star State? by Archie P. McDonald (TCU Press, Box 30783, Fort Worth, TX 76129) 1993. Acknowledgments. Introduction. Sources. P. 190. \$12.95 Paper.

Who is the "Judy Garland of Rock?"

What Texan commanded the Flying Tigers during World War II?

What is the nickname of the Austin College football team?

The answer to these and 997 other stimulating (or aggravating – if you can't remember the answers) questions may be found in Archie P. McDonald's latest book, *Texas? What Do You Know About the Lone Star State?* Dr. McDonald, professor of history at Stephen F. Austin University, former president of the Texas State Historical Association, and longtime executive director of the East Texas Historical Association, became dismayed at the lack of basic knowledge about Texas and its unusually rich and colorful past. Dismay deepened after he conducted a random survey among college students and assorted other Texans: a whopping eighty-three percent did not know the name of the first native-born Texan to become president of the United States; fifty-seven percent could not name the Texan who became president after John F. Kennedy was assassinated in Dallas; only forty-four percent knew that Sam Houston was the first elected president of the Texas Republic; and a guess that "sesquicentennial" is Latin for "Lone Star" was a typically lame response.

Enlisting the aid of fellow scholars and poring through reliable works about Texas, McDonald has put together a challenging, informative, and entertaining volume designed to alleviate this epidemic of "historical amnesia" (p. xiii). Categories include geography (name the river associated with Judge Roy Bean – Pecos), famous Texans (Bill Pickett was a black cowboy who introduced the sport of bulldogging to the rodeo world), Texas movies (name the bio-picture about a Texas baseball pitcher who lost his leg, then made an inspiring comeback – *The Monty Stratton Story*), Texas

politicians (who was the first woman elected governor of Texas, and what was her campaign slogan – Miriam A. Ferguson, and “Two governors for the price of one”), military events of Texas, athletics, music, and a variety of other topics. The book is delightful reading, a must for Texans – and unfortunate outsiders – who want to learn more about the Lone Star State.

Incidentally, Janis Joplin of Port Arthur became known as the “Judy Garland of Rock,” Claire Chennault of Commerce commanded the colorful Flying Tigers in the China Theatre of war, and Austin College fans cheer for the Kangaroos.

Bill O’Neal
Panola Junior College

My Master: The Inside Story of Sam Houston and His Times, by His Former Slave Jeff Hamilton, edited by Lenoir Hunt (State House Press, P.O. Box 15247, Austin, TX 78761) 1992. Illustrations. Index. Bibliography. P. 170. \$14.95 Paper.

Quaint. That is the most charitable way one might describe this reprint of a book first issued in 1940.

The book purports to be the reminiscences of Jeff Hamilton, focusing on his life as Sam Houston’s slave in the decade prior to Houston’s death in 1863, as told to Lenoir Hunt. It is not. Without a doubt, the work is based on a series of conversations Hunt held with the almost 100-year-old Hamilton in 1939, augmented by some vaguely described papers Mr. Hamilton had prepared over the years. But, the writer has drawn so extensively on secondary material about Houston and Texas history to destroy any verisimilitude that the book reflects Hamilton’s words. There are long quotations from Houston’s speeches and detailed descriptions of events and circumstances presented as a part of Hamilton’s recollections that defy reason. What reader could believe that Mr. Hamilton spoke or wrote lines like these?

The Telegraph was started at San Felipe de Austin in the fall of 1835, just as the Texas Revolution was getting under way, by Mr. Joseph Baker and two brothers, Thomas H. and Gail Borden, Jr. The paper became the official government paper, and continued publication until 1880. In that year it was reorganized, and from the reorganization was born one of the great Texas newspapers – The Houston Post. (p. 44-45)

This quotation also reveals only one of numerous examples of another fatal flaw of this book – the facts are not right. While incorrect information for the demise and creations of newspapers might not be considered a major flaw, to totally misrepresent Houston’s position on so important an issue as slavery must be. No student of Houston before or since this book was

issued has uncovered any evidence that Houston ever condemned slavery as morally wrong or that he emancipated his slaves on hearing of Lincoln's proclamation. Even if Mr. Hamilton remembers it that way in his old age, for Hunt to have presented it as fact on these pages was at best reprehensible.

Mr. Hamilton may well have had something interesting or even valuable to tell about his experiences with Houston. It is a shame that whatever it was has been lost. One can only hope that uncritical readers never lay eyes on My Master. It is even less than worthless.

James V. Reese
Stephen F. Austin State University

"For Texas I Will": The History of Memorial Stadium, by Richard Pennington (Historical Publications, 1705 Hilcroft Cove, Austin, TX 78717-5331) 1992. Bibliography. Index. Black & White Photographs. P. 237. \$20.00 Hardcover.

Sports seem to occupy an expanding role in the consciousness of Americans, and maybe more so for Texans. Athletic contests, whether experienced as a participant, an observer, or as a reader after-the-fact, provide a source of entertainment for many; and of more importance, a source of memories that serve as a link with the past. A case might be made that the cultural history of Texas would include sports history, and a large part of the sports history of Texas involves the University of Texas at Austin and the Longhorn athletic teams.

Richard Pennington, a graduate of the University of Texas, presents in *For Texas I Will* a comprehensive look at the history of Memorial Stadium, since 1924 the venue for Texas Longhorn football, track, and other activities. The history of a place central to the sports memory of a large state university includes not only a significant portion of the history of the university, but also of the state of Texas. The author used in his research a broad range of printed material (articles, books, letters, and public records), as well as the recollections of many of the people involved in the actual events. The book offers a rich volume of detail in an absorbing and entertaining fashion. This story is more than that of students who, in raising funds for stadium construction in 1924, adopted the pledge, "For Texas, I Will," but is not less than a worthwhile look at notable events and figures in the history of Texas of the last hundred years.

James H. Todd
Lufkin, Texas

No Apologies: Texas Radicals Celebrate the '60s, edited by Daryl James (Eakin Press, P.O. Box 90159, Austin, TX 78709-0159) 1992. Black & White Photographs. Index. P. 294. \$16.95 Paper.

The title of this book, *No Apologies*, identifies the theme of the book: individual reminiscences of sixteen radicals who were activists in the 1960s and 1970s, remain activists today, and who have no apologies for their radicalism. These radicals were linked by geography, Austin, as well as philosophy, the New Left. The essays thus represent more the impact of the SDS (Students for a Democratic Society) upon individuals than the impact of the civil rights movement or traditional left politics on the nation. Like the SDS, the overwhelming majority of contributors came from the white middle-class. The book includes also a short introduction which laments the nation's politics and foreign policy of the last thirty years; a foreword by Jesse Jackson; main-stream reporter Mike Cox's reaction to demonstrations; a brief identification of the excellent photographer, Alan Pogue; and a tribute to Michael Eakin, who was murdered in 1979 in Houston, Texas.

The selections are uneven, as these kinds of anthologies always are, and vary in length from a few pages to a couple which exceed thirty. For me the most moving and interesting essays were by Susan Torian Olan, now an AIDS activist, and Frieda Werden, a nationally-known spokeswoman for feminism, who no longer resides in the state. Collectively I liked the ebullience of the writers. They seemed not mired in the nostalgia of the 1960s, but in cataloguing the period as part of the experience of ongoing active political lives. The usefulness of the book for most historians will be the ambience of the stories that reveals the innocence and optimism of most Americans – both on the right and on the left – a mere twenty or so years ago.

Robert A. Calvert
Texas A&M University

I'm Meeting Myself Coming Back From Where I've Been, by Bob Bowman (Best of East Texas Publishers, P.O. Box 1647, Tx 75901). P. 141. \$17.95 Hardcover.

Revealed wisdom has it that you are an East Texan if directions to your house include "turn off on the dirt road" Bob Bowman proves he's an East Texan, no doubt about it. His "search" for pioneers in a 1963 Mustang, one chapter in *Meeting Myself*, recounts what can happen with that kind of directions. (And all the while I thought my 1965 Mustang was a first-ever model.)

And that's only one chapter in what he calls an "unabashedly personal collection" of observations about a part of Texas we all love and defend.

Bob's followers know what to expect, though they haven't learned until now about why quiche isn't our national food, how George Anderson Wright came to be president for thirty minutes, and the rules for establishing a new law practice: "an insurance company to sue and a widder woman as a client."

And what he (and a lot of us) like about East Texas! His list – here we really get chauvinistic – includes the Marshall railroad depot, a "pig sandwich" at Neely's, and Caddo Lake, "especially when your guide is retired moonshiner Wyatt Moore" (God rest his soul).

Just to be fair, Bob also lists 118 other things he likes, including staying up all night to hear fox hounds baying in the woods, Dooley Wilson of Tyler, who played Sam the piano man in Casablanca, and the soul food at Dorothy's Cafe in Rusk.

You have to read it and like it – unless you are fastidious about antecedent pronouns and the distinction between the nominative and objective cases. But then Bob is, indeed, an East Texan.

Max Lale

Marshall and Fort Worth, Texas

Exploration and Empire: The Explorer and the Scientist in the Winning of the American West, by William H. Goetzmann (Texas State Historical Association, Sid Richardson Hall, 2.306, University Station, Austin, TX 78712) 1993. Index. Footnotes. Black and White Photographs. Maps. Illustrations. Annotated Bibliography. P. 656. \$21.95 Cloth.

While surveying Western American history from 1805 to 1900, William H. Goetzmann sets out to focus attention upon exploration of the area "as a meaningful activity" and "to trace its impact" on the history of the west and the nation as a whole. He also examines its effect on science and scientific institutions in America and on the development of public policy for the Far West.

In addition to an impressive quantity of evidence drawn from manuscript and archival sources and from standard printed materials, Goetzmann utilized forty-five maps and sixty-eight other illustrations, including photographs, paintings, engravings, sketches, lithographs, and drawings in developing his major thesis. In that regard, he contends that explorers, as they go out into the unknown, are "programmed" by the knowledge, values, and objectives of the civilized centers from which they

departed. He demonstrates that they "are alert to discover evidence of the things they have been sent to find" (p. 199).

Thus, nineteenth-century Americans who set out to explore, map, collect specimens, and examine the geology of the West were of two differing breeds. Most, if not all, of the earlier ones emphasized the "resources" to be exploited and the fortunes to be made in keeping with values and objectives of an America in the throes of an energetic merging capitalism. The later ones tended to point up the need for discovery and conservation of the natural resources and scientific knowledge.

Goetzmann also contrasts the methods and motives of the military and the civilian explorations. The principal objective of the military explorations, he contends, was to gain accurate information about the geography of the region. Settlers pushing westward demanded data about mountain passes, transportation routes, Indian strongholds, river courses, and resources for farmers, miners, and railroad builders.

Civilian explorers sought primarily to range ahead of settlers, open up the new country, locate its resources, classify its lands for proper settlement, and recommend rational and efficient use of the country. In the end, they "wrought great changes in the national approach to the West" and ultimately "the complete institutionalization of natural science in its approach to Western America" (p. 490).

This reprint of the author's 1967 Pulitzer Prize winning historical work includes chapters detailing the exploits of such "explorer-naturalists" as George Catlin and Frederick Ruxton; "explorer-diplomats" as Charles Wilkes, John C. Fremont, and William H. Emory; explorer-reconnaissance men as Joseph C. Ives, John S. Newberry, and John Pope; and explorer-scientists as Josiah D. Whitney, Clarence King, and John W. Powell. Goetzmann concludes that it was the explorers who, "as much as anyone," helped the United States to secure the undeveloped West from international rivals, open it for settlement, lay out the lines of primary migration, locate its abundant resources, and point up the complex problems associated with administering a great inland empire.

If you are at all interested in the history of the American West and you failed to obtain a copy of this work, by all means secure a copy of this fine reprint.

Joe E. Ericson
Stephen F. Austin State University

Singing' Texas, by F.E. Abernethy (University of North Texas Press, Box 13856, Denton, TX 76203) 1994. B&W Photographs. Index. P. 183. \$19.95.

This is a useful, pleasant, attractive, instructive book. It presents some ninety folk songs found and sung in Texas (though most, as the author points out, came from elsewhere and were already in full bloom when they arrived). These include settler's songs, story songs, love songs, cowboy songs, and a group of songs grouped under the heading of "Shadows of History." These latter include songs of the Texas Revolution, Mexican War, Civil War, Reconstruction, Depression, and Dust Bowl. Virtually every genre is represented, and the songs chosen are all good singing songs.

The author provides music (treble clef plus chords) along with words (but never too many stanzas, thankfully). He also provides a running commentary not only on particular genres but on particular songs. The commentary neither patronizes nor "academizes." One is both instructed and entertained; seduced, in fact, to sit down with a guitar or at the piano and try out some of the old favorites or less known pieces.

When the time comes for a second edition this book could be rendered even more complete by the addition of some Hispanic melodies.

Pete A.Y. Gunter
University of North Texas

Catching Shadows, by David Haynes (Texas State Historical Association, 2/306 Richardson Hall, University Station, Austin, TX 78712) 1993. P. 185. \$19.95 Paper.

Photographers were among the most important recorders of nineteenth-century Texas. Little is known about most of them, however, as initially it was usually a trade for itinerants or a passing fancy for amateurs. Their works, moreover, were distributed among their customers rather than being gathered into distinct collections as were manuscripts or newspapers. Every important depository and museum, therefore, has pictures that cannot be reliably dated or attributed.

David Haynes of the Institute of Texas Cultures has earned the gratitude of researchers and curators throughout our state by publishing this directory of early Texas photographers. He lists each documented practitioner, includes any known biographical data, and notes the dates and places each practiced. He also provides subdirectories for women, blacks, and immigrants as well as by decade and location.

In compiling this guide Haynes and his colleagues scoured newspapers, tax records, censuses, almanacs, directories, and any other source likely to show the identity and whereabouts of his subjects. Hopefully this edition will soon be supplanted by an expanded and revised edition as the author discovers new photographers and finds additional details on the men and women currently listed.

Paul R. Scott
Harris County

Texas Ranger: Jack Hays in the Frontier Southwest, by James Kimmins Greer (Texas A&M University Press, Drawer C, College Station, TX 7784304354) 1993. Notes. Index. P. 237. \$12.95 Paper. \$24.50 Hardcover.

John Coffee (Jack) Hays was the epitome of a ranger captain. Although quiet and unassuming, he led his men in battle by example, always in the forefront of the action, fearless and intrepid no matter what the odds, no matter how grave the danger. To the major enemies of Texans – outlaws, Mexicans, Comanches and Apaches – he was a dreaded adversary, admired from afar and feared in close combat. In literally hundreds of engagements on the Texas frontier and during the Mexican War, he demonstrated the Texas Ranger tradition of “you can’t stop a man who just keeps a-comin’ on.”

In *Jack Hays in the Frontier Southwest*, which was first published in 1952, James Greer has focused on a twelve-year period from 1836 to 1848. As a consequence, he has discussed in detail the exploits of Hays in numerous Indian engagements (including Enchanted Rock), the dogged resistance of the Hays’ Rangers against the two Mexican invasions of San Antonio in 1842, and Ranger actions with General Zachery Taylor at the Battle of Monterrey in 1846 and with General Winfield Scott during the conquest of Mexico in the spring and summer of 1847. Greer therefore concluded that Hays, at the end of the Mexican War, “had become one of the most popular military leaders in America” (p. 212).

This reprint by the Texas A&M University Press surely serves its purpose. Although Greer did not always identify individuals or clarify geographic locations for the reader, his research on this first great Ranger captain is impressive. Anyone interested in investigating the Republic period, the Mexican War, and the Texas Rangers will find this work a “must.”

Ben Procter
Texas Christian University