

restructured gender relations, blurred childhood and adulthood, and eliminated political heroes. Well written and compelling in its thesis, *No Sense of Place* joins Richard Schickel's *Intimate Strangers* and Neil Postman's *Amusing Ourselves to Death* as the best recent analyses of television's impact on American culture.
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William Graebner

MAGAZINES OF THE AMERICAN SOUTH. By Sam G. Riley. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press. 1986. \$49.95.

This is solid, serious attempt to provide brief histories and to characterize each of about ninety magazines published in the south. In the cases of those magazines with which I am familiar, I found it accurate, perceptive and intelligent. It is true that sometimes Riley in giving excerpts implies that the excerpts are "typical," and, of course, there is no way that they really can be, since the magazine format itself implies enormous variety. But he is right to give such samples; I am sure that they, like the book itself, are intended to stimulate further fruitful and productive research.

SGL

reform

STILL THE GOLDEN DOOR: The Third World Comes to America. By David M. Reimers. New York: Columbia University Press. 1986. \$25.00.

This factual and analytical study offers a comprehensive account of the legislation, administrative policy and human developments that have shaped U.S. immigration, both legal and illegal, since 1945. In the dismantling of the restrictive national Origins Quota System refugees finally gained a footing. Little did policy-makers realize that demand for asylum would increase significantly, that the principal beneficiaries of liberalization would not be Europeans but Asians and Latin Americans and that the numbers of undocumented would escalate. Reimers explains why and how the character of the American population is changing and intelligently discusses the arguments and consequences surrounding the change.

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Sharon R. Lowenstein

REFORM IN AMERICA: The Continuing Frontier. By Robert H. Walker. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky. 1985. \$25.00.

"The immediate purpose of this work," Walker explains, "is to propose a way of organizing what we know about reform." He distinguishes three major types—or "modes"—of reform on the basis of goal: "the improvement of politico-economic democracy"; "the improved treatment of specific individuals and groups"; and "the alteration of society by reference to a substantially different model." As his example of the first, he traces the money question from Jackson's fight with the Bank of the United States through the establishment of the Federal Reserve system; for the second, the struggle for black and women's rights; for the third, visions of alternative communities, attempted or simply written about, from Oneida to James W. Rouse's Columbia, Maryland. He goes on to compare the "modes" in respect to principal actors, characteristic form and dynamics. He concludes by finding that all share a common set of implicit assumptions: "the unacceptability of the status quo, the primacy of the collective good, the importance of the United States as a social experiment, and the protection of the Bill of Rights."

On matters of substantive detail, Walker treads largely familiar ground. And his taxonomy of reform is too ideologically Procrustean to accommodate the diversity of motivation and purposes that has animated protest in the United States.

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