

A SAILOR'S SONGBAG: An American Rebel in an English Prison, 1777-1779. Edited by George G. Carey. Amherst: University of Massachusetts Press. 1976. \$8.50.

A well-edited and annotated collection of song lyrics from a manuscript copied by a Timothy Connor, an American privateersman. Some were probably copied from broadside slip ballads; some can be connected with tunes in other sources. The subjects are sex, violence, life at sea and American patriotism, and will be of interest to modern ballad singers.

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FRONTIER MUSICIANS ON THE CONNOQUENESSING, WABASH, AND OHIO: A History of the Music and Musicians of George Rapp's Harmony Society, 1805-1906. Athens: Ohio University Press. 1976. \$16.00.

The Harmony Society, a communal society from Germany, founded Harmony, Pa., then New Harmony, Ind., and finally Economy (now Ambridge), near Pittsburgh. It published its own hymnbooks such as *Harmonisches-Gesangbuch* (1820), and at its musical height in 1825-32 had an orchestra which performed music by such Europeans as Haydn and Pleyel, and music by its own composers. John S. Duss, beginning in 1892, made a splash with the Economy Band (soon called Duss' Band) in various cities, culminating in 1902-4 with performances in New York City which were supposed equals to those by the more famous bands of Gilmore and Sousa. Appendices give a full picture of the kind of music owned and played by this unusual enclave, which is a later musical counterpart to the Moravians. A useful but small recording is included, but the choral examples sound as if broadcast over short wave radio. (For an account of a revived New Harmony, see Horace Sutton in *Saturday Review*, 27 November 1976.)

University of Kansas

J. Bunker Clark

CHICAGO'S WHITE CITY OF 1893. By David F. Burg. Lexington: The University Press of Kentucky. 1976. \$17.00.

The book is an impressive compendium of facts and general information concerning the 1893 World's Fair. Burg discusses preparations for the Fair, the specific exhibits, and the Fair's impact on American society. His style is readable, but statistics and accounts of minor incidents too often crowd out analysis and insight. The sections on architecture are strongest.

University of Kansas

Betsy Broun

reference works

THE DEMOCRATIC-REPUBLICAN SOCIETIES, 1790-1800: A Documentary Sourcebook of Constitutions, Declarations, Addresses, Resolutions, and Toasts. Edited by Philip S. Foner. Westport, Connecticut: Greenwood Press. 1976. \$29.95.

A book of documents, but one which argues a case, set forth in Foner's careful introduction: members of the new Societies tended to like the Constitution; this was not simple anti-Federalism. They responded with remarkable strength to developments in France, and fought against both privilege and bigotry at home. Accused by Federalists of assorted heinous offences, they fought back eloquently. When Washington himself turned on them, the Republican Society of Baltimore warned respectfully of the dangerous precedents: "the free Governments of Venice, Geneva, the United Provinces and of several other countries of Europe have been changed the most into Aristocracies and yet retained the name of republics" (342).

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HISTORY OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: A Guide to Information Sources. Edited by Ernest Cassara. Detroit, Michigan: Gale Research Company. 1977. \$18.00.

One of Gale's "American Studies Information Guide Series," this volume is aimed, as its title implies, at History, not American Studies: it usually emphasizes chronology and events. (David Marcell is to do the American Studies volume in the series.)

Because it has happened a number of times in the past, I have decided from now on to say something nasty about any bibliographical work which carries misinformation about our journal. Since this guide lists us as "occasional," I conclude, perhaps unjustly, that the whole volume is slipshod. Capricious, it certainly is. For example, for periods in the nineteenth century, under the heading, "Prominent Individuals," it

includes both public figures and literary figures. But for the contemporary period, "Prominent Individuals" includes only people in public life. It is not nearly so rich a source as Frank Freidel's *Harvard Guide to American History*.

SGL

KNIGHTS OF THE GOLDEN RULE: The Intellectual as Christian Social Reformer in the 1890's. By Peter J. Frederick. Lexington: University Press of Kentucky. 1976. \$18.75.

This is an outstanding survey of the careers of ten intellectuals who were staunch advocates of the application of Christian teachings to the socio-economic problems of the United States at the dawn of the twentieth century. In contrast to more practical reformers, W. D. P. Bliss, Ernest H. Crosby, B. O. Flower, George D. Herron, William Dean Howells, Samuel M. Jones, Henry Demarest Lloyd, Edwin Markham, Walter Rauschenbusch and Vida Scudder were all advanced idealists. With the possible exception of Samuel Jones, the famed Mayor of Toledo, their idealism and personal backgrounds generally prevented them from playing decisive roles in public affairs.

The careers of the ten "knights" are symbolic of the ambivalence of the entire progressive era. Likewise, the book is excellent in its portrayal of the trans-Atlantic migration of ideas. Indebted to the New Testament and the American intellectual tradition, the reformers also took inspiration from such Europeans as John Ruskin, Giuseppe Mazzini and Leo Tolstoy.

Knights of the Golden Rule is a first-class piece of writing based on exhaustive scholarship. The bibliography, particularly its listing of Social Gospel periodicals, is most useful.

University of Nebraska at Omaha

Harl A. Dalstrom

A HISTORY OF THE ICC: From Panacea to Palliative. By Ari and Olive Hoogenboom. New York: W. W. Norton & Company, Inc. 1976. \$10.00.

Why the Interstate Commerce Commission has failed is the central concern of this case study. The authors succeed best in describing the detailed workings of the Commission over time, but do not sufficiently analyze the implications for the general problem of federal economic regulation, its possibilities and limitations. A largely derivative summary of existing scholarship, this work might serve as a useful recommended reading in an advanced undergraduate course in American economic, political, legal or administrative history, if students have the stamina to wade through a sometimes ponderous presentation of bureaucratic detail.

Iowa State University

D. M. P. McCarthy

THE FATHERS OF THE TOWNS: Leadership and Community Structure in Eighteenth-Century New England. By Edward M. Cook, Jr. Baltimore: Johns Hopkins University Press. 1976. \$12.95.

Cook builds on the work of Lockridge, Greven and the "new social history." Major officeholders were usually middle aged church members and had prepared for responsibility by holding minor offices. Deferential politics began to disappear after the Revolution; competition became the norm. Cook uses a variety of socioeconomic and political indices to develop a typology of towns which runs from cities or urban centers to unstable frontier communities. This solidly-researched, well written work is a major contribution to early American historical studies.

Ohio State University

Richard M. Rollins

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON: Colonial American, 1715-1763. By Milton W. Hamilton. Port Washington, New York: Kennikat Press. 1976. \$17.50.

This is the first of a projected two volume biography of Sir William Johnson, the premier-arbiter of colonial Indian affairs in the northern provinces during the eighteenth century. Grounded in extensive and thorough research, the completed work is certain to be regarded as the definitive life of Johnson. This first volume follows Johnson from his Irish birth to the end of the French and Indian War; the second will carry the story through to his death in 1774. Hamilton touches all the bases, skillfully interweaving the details of his subject's life with judicious discussions of provincial and imperial politics. The prose, though occasionally turgid, is usually clear, and if the author sometimes lapses into partisan pleas on Johnson's behalf, he also