Quimby.” About half of these accounts deal directly with Pennsylvania. All of them throw light on matters affecting indirectly readers of American history.

The volume is remarkably well written and notably free from imperfections of typography and publication. Its weight intellectually and physically is light but its quality and appeal are “unusual.”

University of Pittsburgh

Alfred P. James

Readings in Indiana History. Compiled by Gayle Thornbrough and Dorothy Riker: Indiana Historical Bureau: October 1956. Price $2.00 (Paper Cover) $4.50 (Cloth Bound).

In the PREFACE to this volume, the reader learns that back in 1914 a committee of the History Section of the Indiana State Teacher’s Association compiled a small volume entitled READINGS IN INDIANA HISTORY. This study was published by Indiana University, but has long since been out of print. In preparing the present volume of Readings the editors profited from the earlier volume, and included many of the selections used in it. However, since there is no satisfactory one-volume history of Indiana which can be read in conjunction with the Readings, the editors announce that they had difficulty in compiling this volume. As a result, they decided to use considerable secondary material along with the original source material “to fill out the various chapters.” This reviewer thinks they have done an excellent job in this respect.

The table of contents lists some 30 major headings, with a final heading listed, appropriately, as Miscellany, which includes such divergent items as Eugene Debs, and Hoosier Eggs for Korea. However, the over-all organization, with the Readings chronologically arranged, and with wisely chosen items within each chronological period, is to be commended. Naturally, the first chapter, (although the word “chapter” is not used) is entitled “Indiana’s Pre-historic Cultures.” Then follows The French Period; The English Period; George Rogers Clark and The Revolution”; and “Frontier Life and Border Warfare,” bringing the narrative down to the establishment of Indian Territory.

The “readings” move more rapidly from there on, with the editors selecting such events as slavery; beginnings of state government; coming of the early settlers, Harmonie and New Harmony; pioneer life in
Indiana, travel and transportation; agriculture; banking; education; early churches; Mexican War; temperance, politics; constitutional convention of 1850; the Civil War; World War I; and World War II. Under each of these "Readings" a number of well chosen selections are included which present a rapid cavalcade of Indiana history.

Of special interest to readers of the Historical Magazine of Western Pennsylvania are such selections as George Rogers Clark’s campaign, which was outfitted here in Pittsburgh Harmonie and New Harmony; Travel and Transportation, with a description of the New Orleans built here in Pittsburgh; and General John Morgan’s raid through Southern Indiana and Eastern Ohio before his threatened attack (which never occurred) on Pittsburgh.

Other state historical societies and commissions might well consider issuing a volume or volumes patterned after this interesting work. The selections are not aimed at any one particular age level; rather, the editors express the hope that they will appeal to high school and college students alike, and to adults who are interested in reading about Indiana’s past. This reviewer believes that these "Readings" will do just that.

University of Pittsburgh

JOHN W. OLIVER


With this publication another of the secondary leaders in the age of transition from free to controlled private enterprise has been evaluated. The author is to be congratulated not only on his choice of Stephen B. Elkins for a biographical study, but also for his presentation of new materials dealing with the times in which his subject lived. Most of these new materials are located in the Library of West Virginia University and are briefly described in the bibliography which is impressive except for the omission of the newspapers cited in footnotes. In an introductory paragraph the author states that he has not deemed it desirable to list newspapers, but since the footnotes contain a superabundance of such references (more than 40 per cent refer to newspapers), it is difficult to see how such an omission is desirable.

Like so many others of his day Elkins gained fame and fortune by exploiting the nation’s natural resources. With his initial "strikes" com-