

so essential to the success of any organization. Miles Poindexter of Washington would be called a right-wing radical today for his praise of the military. James A. Reed of Missouri was a Democrat who had disagreed with Wilson on international policy after having supported his domestic policy. Lawrence Y. Sherman of Illinois was rapidly becoming deaf as the Treaty fight approached. He had spent his senatorial life "incontinently whaling the life out of everything" and saw no reason to change. Charles S. Thomas of Colorado was a Democrat who refused to be publicly identified with the Irreconcilables. He doubted if anybody had nonpolitical motives for anything.

Contrary to public opinion, Henry Cabot Lodge was not an Irreconcilable. Rather he was concerned with keeping the Republican Party intact for a political victory in 1920. *The Irreconcilables* documents his political and parliamentary success working with the tools and men at hand. Probably no more brilliant political battle has been waged between the executive and legislative branches of the United States government for control of the minds and votes of the people. The book also ably demonstrates how no political victory is permanent. Today in Vietnam, Korea, and West Germany, United States foreign policy is demonstrating just how correct these men were in their projected estimates of what a League of Nations would do for the American government and people. Dr. Stone does not pass a moral judgment on these men. He states the facts as he discovered them through diligent research. The reader is left to draw his own conclusions.

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HELEN FRANK COLLINS

Fight for the Delaware, 1777. By SAMUEL STELLE SMITH. (Monmouth Beach, N. J.: Philip Freneau Press, 1970. Pp. 52.)

This latest book in the bicentennial series on the American Revolution published by the Philip Freneau Press concerns the important but little known campaign by the British to seize control of the Delaware River in 1777. After defeating the main American army at Brandywine and Germantown the British discovered that the American forts, ships and obstacles on the Delaware River prevented them from supplying their army at Philadelphia. The American defense rested on two poorly designed forts, a few batteries, ships and

galleys of the Continental and Pennsylvania state navies, and lines of obstacles in the channel. The British threw naval and military forces against the obstructions but the Americans fought back bravely and inflicted heavy naval losses on the British at their bombardment of Fort Mifflin and repulsed a frontal attack by the Hessians on Fort Mercer. Eventually weight of numbers and artillery told, Fort Mifflin was practically leveled and the Americans burned their ships, blew up Fort Mercer and abandoned the defense of the river.

Smith's book, like the others in this series, gives the reader an immensely detailed account of the campaign. The maps, illustrations, and back notes are excellent and the narrative is clear and concise. Thus the book is an invaluable addition to the library of anyone interested in the military history of the Revolution. Smith covers disputed points well and informs the reader of various interpretations. His use of maps and plans makes the complex actions in the campaign understandable and he never pushes his particular evaluations too far.

But the book does have limitations. The campaign for the river is never really placed in the perspective of Washington and the British commanders and although the reader realizes that events are occurring off stage there is never any overall discussion of the choices, forces, or movements of the main American and British armies. An extension of the introductory chapter with some maps showing the entire Pennsylvania-New Jersey theater of operations would have provided the reader with some reference to larger events. The author also fails to discuss or describe British supply arrangements which would have underlined the importance of the Delaware route for the British and he also fails to discuss the reasons for the weakness of the American fortifications on the river. On the whole the book is an excellent piece of detailed, well written, tactically oriented military history.

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VAN BECK HALL

Lopez of Newport: Colonial American Merchant Prince. By STANLEY F. CHYER. (Detroit: Wayne State University Press, 1970. Pp. 195. Illustrations, foreword, notes, a note on sources, bibliography, index. \$8.95.)

This is the story of Aaron Lopez, an early emigrant to the American colonies and a Sephardic Jew (one from Spain or Portugal, in his case, from the latter country), who had fled from persecution, and