ware, while the chlorine combined with hydrogen to form hydrochloric acid which was dissipated through the chimney. This was quite spectacular, as yellow flame would shoot out the salting ports and dense clouds of vaporous acid would rise like smoke into the sky. Afterwards, fired ware was removed from the kiln, graded, and sold.

Professor Schaltenbrand includes considerable material on the economic aspects of the industry. At first the local market absorbed most of the production. However, as the industry grew, more distant markets had to be developed. The chief method of delivery to these markets was by barge.

The volume is enhanced by many photographs of typical ware produced, with descriptive captions when available.

_Hall China Company_  
_B. W. Merwin_  
_East Liverpool, Ohio_


Making extensive use of oral histories, and personal and official records in union, federal, and presidential archives, Melvyn Dubofsky and Warren Van Tine have undertaken to demythologize a life which frequently deliberately fostered myth in order to cloak power in a web of inscrutability. Like earlier Lewis biographers, Dubofsky and Van Tine uncover scant information about Lewis's private life. In fact only two chapters trace the unionist's obscure origins and his first steps to a career in union organizing. Other than occasional references interspersed throughout the book to Myrta Lewis's (John L. Lewis's wife) quest for expensive antiques, to Lewis's fine homes in Springfield, Illinois, and Alexandria, Virginia, or to the early death of one daughter and the obesity of the other, or to the rejection of his namesake — all of which caused Lewis considerable anguish — Dubofsky and Van Tine focus rather rigidly on Lewis as a public figure.

According to the authors, Lewis modeled his style as a labor leader after the fashion of American big-city politicos, veritably after New York's Boss Plunkitt. Like late nineteenth-century politicians, Lewis and such union cohorts as William Green, Daniel Tobin, and Phillip Murray viewed their work as a profession. This in fact is the
Dubofsky-Van Tine story: the history of the rise of a bureaucratically organized union structure told from the vantage point of the career of John L. Lewis. From that massive union and government official record the two authors reconstruct Lewis's peregrinations from his early days as a young American Federation of Labor organizer in the Pennsylvania and West Virginia coalfields to his ascendance to the United Mine Workers of America presidency in 1921, his reign as a "Republican unionist" in the 1920s, his leadership of the Congress of Industrial Organizations (CIO) and his split with the AFL during the 1930s, and finally Lewis's isolation from the mainstream of the union movement and his withdrawal from the theater of labor in the 1950s and 1960s.

Dubofsky and Van Tine assert that Lewis can best be understood as a pragmatic opportunist whose religion was Americanism (p. 291), and whose only ideological commitment was to a simplistic cyclical theory of history (pp. 56, 129). Moreover, undergirding Lewis the opportunist was Lewis the consummate tactician and strategist who played union convention and backroom politics like a concert virtuoso. As an opportunist, argue the authors, Lewis, the Republican anti-Communist of the 1920s who banished insurgent opponents for even the slightest taint of Bolshevism, as a bold CIO leader in the 1930s could court Communist support against Green and the AFL in the bitter CIO-AFL jurisdictional battles. Sincerely bent on organizing all the unorganized industrial workers in America, Lewis often tolerated lawless and violent behavior. Dubofsky and Van Tine note the 1922 strike in Williamson County, Ohio, and Lewis's assault on Bill Hutchenson at the 1935 AFL convention as examples.

Likewise, Lewis the opportunist easily switched his loyalties from Herbert Hoover to Franklin D. Roosevelt in 1932. Dubofsky and Van Tine observe that although he was chagrined at Hoover for denying him the post of secretary of labor in 1928, pique hardly explains Lewis's motives for siding with FDR and the New Deal. Without ever sharing the vision of the New Deal, Lewis saw the sumptuousness of the New Deal fare and brought labor to the feast. In fact, Dubofsky and Van Tine treat Lewis and the CIO organizing years, 1932-1939, as "Years of Glory" (pp. 181-389).

Where the official record is clear, Dubofsky and Van Tine reconstruct Lewis's role in the labor movement with clarity, even artistry. Certainly, they succeed in stripping away the myths of Lewis the tyrant, portraying him instead as a methodical disciple of efficiency determined to exploit union power for the good of labor and his own
career. The authors provide exquisite descriptions of such major events in American labor history as the CIO organizing drive and the Lewis-Murray controversy in the 1930s.

However, the official record so masterfully utilized by the authors frequently obfuscates the macroscopic framework of the study. Dubofsky and Van Tine only infer Lewis's place in the bureaucratic pattern of twentieth-century modernization. Clearly, Lewis exemplifies the bureaucratic-mindedness that according to Robert Wiebe and Roy Lubove characterize progressive America in the years 1900-1940. Lewis's interest in centralizing the union movement, in imposing controls on chaotic (Royalist) capitalism, in eliminating inefficient mining operations, and introducing greater mechanization into the mining industry, make him as much a part of the New Era as Robert W. Taylor, Morris L. Cooke, Rexford Tugwell, Herbert Hoover, and FDR. As the authors contend, Lewis broke with FDR over the discriminatory impact of particular New Deal and wartime controls, not over the controls themselves.

Nor does the book adequately assess the fruits of Lewis's UMWA leadership, other than casually suggesting that "Appalachia" in the pejorative sense might properly be laid at Lewis's doorstep. Yet the human dimensions should loom larger especially when the authors at the outset of the book state that Lewis's life and Yablonski's violent death were not unrelated. Consider here that John L. Lewis agreed with New Dealers who in the 1930s reported the sordid plight of "stranded" mining populations in places like southwestern Pennsylvania. The UMWA policy of encouraging mine mechanization replete with high wages for those miners spared the technological unemployment ultimately actually harshened the dilemma of poverty for those older and disabled miners who never benefited from Section 7a, the Guffey-Snyder Coal Act, and the other fruits of the Lewis-FDR marriage of convenience. Nevertheless, despite these problems, and a host of typographical errors in the text, Dubofsky and Van Tine have produced a very readable and important chronicle of the official career of John L. Lewis.

Department of History and Urban Affairs  
California State College  
California, Pennsylvania

John F. Bauman

(New York: W. W. Norton & Company, Inc., for the American