

appropriate class text nor a book for casual reading, but rather a valuable reference work for urban and labor historians. ■

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*Guide to the Microfilmed Harmony Society Records, 1786-1951 (Manuscript Group 185) in the Pennsylvania State Archives.* Compiled by Robert M. Dructor.  
Edited by Roland M. Baumann.

(Harrisburg: Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission, 1983. Pp. vi, 77. Introduction, illustrations, index. \$3.00, paper.)

The microfilming of the Harmony Society Records, 1786-1951, was the result of a cooperative effort between the National Endowment for the Humanities and the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission. This is a sizable collection and is contained in 311 rolls of microfilm. The papers cover the administration, legal records, business papers, and public documents of the Harmony Society.

The introduction to the guide describes the history of the Harmony Society. In its 101 years of existence it occupied three locations in two states, moving from Harmony, Pennsylvania, to New Harmony, Indiana, and back to Pennsylvania at Economy. According to the guide, the society began as "a copy of a self-sufficient German farming village." It soon expanded its activities and began producing shoes, hats, flour, and furniture for sale.

In Indiana the Harmonists erected larger factories, but their neighbors proved hostile and the community moved back to Pennsylvania. Here, because the quality of their goods was excellent and the labor of the Harmonist members free, the society undersold its competition and dominated the market. In the introduction is a list of "Harmony Society Trustees" from 1805 to 1905. A "Historical Chronology of the Harmony Society" gives an abridged history of its founding, growth, and development.

The history of the storing, moving, arranging, and rearranging of the documents can be found in the introduction. The society "destroyed records of the amount of property contributed by each member." Other papers may have been lost when the records were

moved from the Great House and deposited in other repositories and when they were moved back to Economy after 1940. One of the last trustees, John S. Duss, restricted access to the papers. There were several attempts to arrange the papers and disagreements between archivists and historians about whether the proper archival arrangement had been achieved. There was one previous attempt to microfilm the records.

The guide lists materials in the following groups: Administrative File, Legal File, and Business File. The Business File is divided into Letter Books and Correspondence, Account Volumes, Domestic and Handicraft Industries, and records of factories like the Economy Lumber Company. There are also microfilms of the books published by the Harmony Society Press, a General File, and a Public Records File.

The guide is complete. It lists the entire contents of each roll. The index adds to its usefulness. The compiler and editor have produced a useful reference tool for the historian interested in the history and activities of the Harmony Society. ■

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*Isaac W. Frank: Industrialist and Civic Leader, 1855-1930.* By Corinne Azen Krause.

(Pittsburgh: Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania, 1984. Pp. vi, 201. Introduction, preface, illustrations, bibliography, index. \$15.95.)

This splendid study carefully chronicles the multifaceted career of a prominent Pittsburgh Jewish industrial leader. Consisting of five topically arranged chapters, this fascinating biography concentrates on three realms of Frank's life: his industrial achievements; his civic leadership; and his commitment to Pittsburgh Jewry and his family. The book is based on extensive primary sources from family papers and from business records. Its chapters are extremely well organized and vividly portray the life of Frank within the context of his beloved Pittsburgh.

Two major chapters focus on the family, boyhood, and early engineering career of Frank. The book contains interesting and detailed