

Organizations (CIO) and voted for Democratic politicians, rural-industrial workers like those in Hancock County preferred to rely on their families, their communities, and even their employers to safeguard their welfare and resisted the allure of the CIO. Rural laborers also remained outside the New Deal order throughout the 1940s and 1950s, voting for "conservative politicians," like the Republican Arch Moore, who favored placing "limits on union power" (p. 118).

According to Martin, localism accounted for rural workers' repudiation of the national labor movement and New Deal liberalism. He argues that "rural working-class culture privileged place and local community over class" (p. 2). Displaying values inherited from nineteenth-century agrarians, workers in Hancock County "voiced suspicions of national unions and powerful union officials," fearing that control would shift from local communities to "distant, impersonal bureaucracies" (p. 10). Rural workers favored independent unions that maintained the "local nature of labor relations" through "face-to-face communication" with management (pp. 92, 10). Independent organizations were seen as more responsive to local demands and, therefore, as more conducive to community autonomy.

Unlike urban laborers, who turned to the welfare state to provide a safety net, rural-industrial workers used their access to productive property to weather hard times. Drawing on the agrarian tradition of "making do," working-class families supplemented their paychecks by growing produce in household gardens (p. 10). These rural "survival strategies tended to strengthen their localism and weaken their commitment to New Deal coalition goals such as a more robust welfare state and union protections" (p. 10).

While Martin's emphasis on localism is generally persuasive, there are other explanations that the author overlooks. For a book that focuses on capital mobility, it is interesting that the author does not give much credence to the idea that rural workers rejected national labor organizations out of fear of factory relocation. Perhaps not participating in the labor movement was the price Hancock County workers had to pay to avoid capital flight.

These criticisms aside, Martin's argument is novel and compelling, showing how place and locality represented a major impediment for the labor movement and New Deal coalition. On the whole, *Smokestacks in the Hills* is a valuable study that sheds new light on the overlooked historical experiences of rural-industrial workers.

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Corazón de Dixie: Mexicanos in the U.S. South since 1910. By Julie M. Weise. David J. Weber Series in the New Borderlands History. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 2015. Pp. [xiv], 344. Paper, \$32.50. ISBN 978-1-4696-2496-9.)

Corazón de Dixie: Mexicanos in the U.S. South since 1910 "recovers and recounts" the experiences of Mexican and Mexican American working people in the South while offering a framework for understanding "race, class, citizenship, and national belonging" in the region, and in the United States and Mexico more broadly (p. 3). By focusing on the changes brought by a diverse group

of *Mexicanos* over a century, Julie M. Weise argues counterintuitively that “from the perspective of Mexican American history, there is no regional continuity of racial exclusion in the U.S. South” (p. 13).

Weise focuses on race and labor and links the experiences and mobilities of Mexican working people with the concurrent out-migration of white and black southerners. She explores the dynamic interplay between Mexican aspirations and struggles for autonomy in the South, and the responses of the array of southerners with whom they interacted. Weise correctly pitches the story at the granular, individual level and eschews any normative fusion of the perspectives of all the groups and institutional structures she examines.

This book has five case studies across time and space, focusing on New Orleans, the Mississippi Delta, the Arkansas Delta, rural Georgia, and Charlotte, North Carolina. Each chapter combines individual stories with an exploration of the social and economic lives of migrants in new systems of local culture and power. Weise touches on everything from sartorial choices to music, religion, spatiality of housing, labor structures, racial and class formations, and strategies of resistance. It is a complicated tale, which, if not as entirely innovative in coverage as it claims, is engagingly told.

Weise has done impressive transnational archival research in Mexico and across the United States, while tapping the large literature related to the southern themes with which her story intersects. She makes use of interviews and a fair number of images, which, for reasons that are not entirely clear, she terms “nontraditional forms of evidence . . . to comprehend the imaginative lives that migrants led outside the surveillance of local, national, or international institutions” (p. 7). It is unclear why the use of oral histories, interviews, and images should be presented as a novel or transgressive approach when it is really quite common, especially in works examining contemporary eras and issues of migration and labor. Indeed, the same approach is readily apparent in the quite large interdisciplinary literature on Latino immigration to and experience in the South in the works of scholars like Altha J. Cravey, Holly R. Barcus, José María Mantero, Leon Fink, Hannah Gill, and Mary E. Odem, among many others too numerous to mention.

The photographs Weise has unearthed, including many from family collections, are striking. Some photographs are used in illuminating ways, such as in the arresting albums of farmworkers in Georgia. In other instances, the book indulges in unfortunate American studies-style approaches by investing pictures with a causal significance that is rather elusive or nonexistent. For example, in an otherwise persuasive and well-supported chapter on Charlotte, where “racial difference disrupted spaces imagined to be nearly all white,” Weise presents two elementary school class photographs and writes that the content of the pictures themselves produced changes (p. 181). Ironically, using these pictures in this manner invites a racial gaze that in some ways inadvertently echoes the discussion in the text.

Corazón de Dixie is an ambitious project, and it is accomplished with thorough research and clear writing. Weise resituates the history of Mexicans and Mexican Americans in the South and within southern historiography to

broaden understanding of the experience of Mexican working people across the region.

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Mississippians in the Great War: Selected Letters. Edited by Anne L. Webster. (Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2015. Pp. xvi, 231. \$65.00, ISBN 978-1-4968-0279-8.)

This volume is a welcome addition to Mississippi historiography. Though World War I provided the Magnolia State's first wholesale encounter with some of the modern forces shaping the outside world, scholars have had little to say about that encounter. As the book's back cover blurb notes, "Even Mississippi textbooks rarely mention the part Mississippi men and women played" in the conflict. Anne L. Webster, the former longtime director of reference services for the Mississippi Department of Archives and History (MDAH), has contributed a valuable first step toward filling that void.

Playing to her strength, Webster has gleaned from the MDAH's manuscript holdings and newspapers around the state letters home from servicemen and volunteer workers engaged in various aspects of the war effort. Following an introduction that briefly but adequately recounts the phases of American involvement are four chapters—"Americans Enter the War," mostly about military training; "Crossing the Pond and Getting Ready"; "Over the Top and into Battle," the longest and most gripping section; and "All Quiet on the Western Front"—and an epilogue that summarizes the impact of the war.

The letters portray an amazing array of experiences, from the boredom of camp life to the exhilaration and terror of combat. They encompass an equally diverse range of topics: censorship, disease and quarantine, ubiquitous racial prejudice, patriotism, homesickness, the wonders of the wider world ("The ocean is a beautiful place but there is entirely too much of it. It is much larger than the ponds I have been used to fishing in") and the carnage wrought by war ("As we walked along we saw the dead, heaps on heaps. Our own and the Germans") (pp. 101, 203). Some letters are eloquent: one remarks, "How quickly events move; and how insignificant we all are, blown about like leaves on the winds of fate!" (p. 63). Others are poignant, as shown by the plea of a training camp commander to Governor Theodore G. Bilbo that he urge "mothers, wives, and sweethearts" to refrain from begging their soldier loved ones to come home, because those sincere and well-intentioned words "engender homesickness and discontent in the hearts of the boys" (pp. 48, 49).

The letter writers are likewise diverse: college-educated and barely literate, noted (William Alexander Percy and Harris Dickson) and obscure. They include farmers, planters, merchants, doctors, lawyers, and factory workers, in addition to an automobile salesman, a livery stable operator, a deputy chancery clerk, a former head of the state insane asylum, and the son of lumber baron Edward Hines. Webster has added a humanizing touch by laboring, no doubt tediously, to identify the correspondents, to note those who perished during the war and the circumstances of their deaths, and to unearth some essential details of the postwar careers of those who survived. She also