

**Kenneth R. Philp, ed. *Indian Self-Rule: First-Hand Accounts of Indian-White Relations from Roosevelt to Reagan*. (Salt Lake City: Howe Brothers, 1986) x, 343 pp., \$21.50; \$12.50 paper.**

This book is a summary of a truly historic conference held at Sun Valley, Idaho, from August 17 to 20, 1983. Organized by the Institute of the American West, under the leadership of E. Richard Hart, Alvin M. Josephy, Jr., and Vine Deloria, Jr., the conference brought together over 400 persons interested in Indian affairs from around the country; included were most of the people who do research and write on contemporary Indian affairs and many of the participants in past and present Indian affairs. For example, present were four past Commissioners of Indian Affairs—Robert L. Bennett, Alexander McNabb, Philleo Nash, and Ben Reifel. Moreover, the speakers and panel members included more Indians than non-Indians; by my count, there were thirty-one Indians acting in these capacities and eighteen non-Indians. The caliber of participants is very impressive. Vine Deloria, Jr., was not there, but his brother Philip S. (Sam) Deloria gave a major address, and other Indians present included W. Roger Buffalohead; Joe De La Cruz, then President of the National Congress of American Indians; Susan Shown Harjo, currently President of the NCAI; LaDonna Harris; Helen Peterson; Ada Deer; Hank Adams; Gerald Wilkinson; Alfonso Ortiz; Francis McKinley; Robert Burnette; and Earl Old Person. Prominent non-Indians included Hart, Josephy and Philp, James Officer, Sol Tax, Charles Wilkinson, Hazel Hertzberg, Wilcomb Washburn, and Gary Orfield. Others not named might just as well have been on these lists, and there were participants of equal stature (for example, Lawrence Kelly and Simon Ortiz, who were not on panels).

The overall theme of the conference was the Indian Reorganization Act, whose fiftieth anniversary occurred the next year, but all phases of Indian policy were included. (The only comparable previous meeting focusing on the IRA was a symposium sponsored by the American Anthropological Association in 1953, although it was on a much smaller scale.) Each day of the conference had a specific focus; the first day concentrated on the Indian New Deal, the second Termination, the third Toward Self-Determination, and the last Indian Self-Rule in the Past and the Future. Along the way, a large number of topics was discussed, including the Indian Claims Commission, relocation, and the War on Poverty. Oren Lyons gave an eloquent presentation of the views of many traditional Indians, and tribal council leaders from many native American societies with written constitutions were present in significant numbers. Hank Adams represented militant leaders from the 1960s, although some of the contemporary militants were not present.

The richness of the presentations was matched by the opportunities for informal exchanges and for semi-formal evening discussion meetings in which there were some extremely interesting discussions of where

Indian leaders see themselves and their societies heading. In addition, members of the staff of the Institute of the American West did interviews with a number of people at the conference. Tape recordings of the entire proceedings were made by the public radio station at the University of Utah and are available for purchase from the University and for use at several University libraries. The book abridges all of this record, unfortunately without informing readers when material was deleted.

The net result is a book that summarizes an extremely important and stimulating conference. Available here is an indication of the best thinking going on in Indian country today, as well as precious nuggets for the historically inclined. In this reviewer's opinion, the best overall statements made at the conference were those by Sam Deloria and Roger Buffalohead, addresses fortunately reproduced at length. Among the most interesting historical material was a panel on John Collier during which Lucy Kramer Cohen discussed the Indian activities of her husband, Felix Cohen. Overall, this volume provides as good a short statement of what is going on in Indian country today as is available anywhere; even the variety of viewpoints is enlightening in a way that a synthesis by a single author could not be. Persons interested in Indian affairs, from a scholarly or a practical point of view, or from both, should read this volume.

The photographs are mostly from the 1930s, there is an excellent bibliography on "Recent Indian-White Relations," and a short index. The editor is author of a book and a number of articles about John Collier, the principal architect of the Indian New Deal.

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**Monte Piliawsky. *Exit 13: Oppression and Racism in Academia*. (Boston: South End Press, 1982) xvii, 252 pp., \$7.50 paper.**

The first half of *Exit 13: Oppression and Racism in Academia* presents a case study of the University of Southern Mississippi. (The title refers to the I-59 exit leading to Hattiesburg.) Monte Piliawsky concentrates on the early 1970s, during part of which time he held an appointment in the Department of Political Science at USM. He portrays a university controlled by a bigoted administration and describes in great detail the arbitrary and decentralized authority exercised there. His depiction of the University's leadership reveals it as comical if insensitive at one extreme and viciously racist and vindictive on the other. USM is consistently characterized as lacking intellectual integrity and academic standards.