

Social & Behavioral Sciences

approach. Only two maps are provided; they do not significantly add to the narrative, and they are difficult to read. Too many spots in the text need copyediting. **Summing Up:** Not recommended.—*D. F. Anderson, Northwestern College (IA)*

45-5758 E99 2007-40614 CIP
 Cappel, Constance. **The smallpox genocide of the Odawa tribe at L'Arbre Croche, 1763: the history of a Native American people.** E. Mellen, 2007. 173p bibl index ISBN 9780773452206, \$99.95

Publication of American Indian perspectives on history is a positive trend that provides an antidote to colonizers' perspectives. However, the antidote should not be a mirror image of previous bias. Cappel's thesis is that unnamed British officials gave tins of smallpox spores to Odawa from L'Arbre Croche in 1763. This genocide "changed the course of history." Substantiation comes from Web sites and Andrew Blackbird's *History of the Ottawa and Chippewa Indians of Michigan* (1887), augmented by speculation related to Lord Jeffrey Amherst's infamous letter. Cappel also indicates that copper from Michigan was traded to Mediterranean civilizations to create the Bronze Age; the Odawa community of L'Arbre Croche numbered around 30,000; scalping began in 1756; the French "encouraged an addiction to rum"; tens of thousands of Indians under a flag of truce were murdered by the British; and both the League of Nations and UN were modeled on the Indian system. One function of this book is its illustration of the ubiquity of plot theories and the historical inaccuracies that form their bases. It also demonstrates a beginning stage in historiography that includes Indian sources. **Summing Up:** Optional. Graduate students and faculty only.—*G. Gagnon, University of North Dakota*

45-5759 E209 2007-1802 CIP
 Carp, Benjamin L. **Rebels rising: cities and the American Revolution.** Oxford, 2007. 334p bibl index afp ISBN 9780195304022, \$35.00

Carp (Tufts) attempts to "show how a civic consciousness developed among Boston's waterfront community, New York taverngoers, Newport congregations, Charleston's elite patriarchy, and the gatherings in Philadelphia's State House Yard." This consciousness underlay the resistance to British authority in America before 1776. Boston offers the best unique case for community consciousness and mobilization against the British. The waterfront's men, from merchants to longshoremen, were critical to that success. Elsewhere, the taverns, churches, elite homes, and Pennsylvania State House were far more contested grounds than the waterfront in Boston. Public consciousness was raised in or by all these venues, but consensus did not appear. At different stops, moderate Whigs engaged radical Whigs, out-of-doors rallies troubled Quaker Party politicians, and the planter elite fretted over Regulators and slaves. The book ends with a requiem for the post-1776 decline of cities' significance in American public life. Including such different cities and moving to a different venue in each city is a daunting labor of synthesis; the scope is both the book's strength and weakness. Coherence appears slim at times. Moreover, despite the novel approach, the events are well represented in previous histories. **Summing Up:** Optional. All academic levels.—*J. D. Marietta, University of Arizona*

45-5760 HV8144 2006-102680 CIP
 Charles, Douglas M. **J. Edgar Hoover and the anti-interventionists: FBI political surveillance and the rise of the domestic security state, 1939-1945.** Ohio State, 2007. 197p bibl index afp ISBN 0814210619, \$39.95 ISBN 9780814210611, \$39.95

Virtually all major accounts of FBI political surveillance have focused on the bureau's activities during the two great modern US "red scares" (1919-20 and approximately 1946-54). Charles (Pennsylvania State Univ., Erie) focuses here on the strangely neglected pre-WW II period (despite the misleading dates in the subtitle) when, he correctly argues, the foundation of the FBI's role in forging what he terms the "domestic security state" was truly laid, in direct response to President Franklin Roosevelt's 1934 and 1936 orders for general political surveillance reports (not focused on illegalities) of both far Right and far Left groups. While Charles very unfortunately focuses only on surveillance of "anti-interventionists" such

as the America First Committee, Charles Lindbergh, and leading isolationist congressmen such as Gerald Nye (hardly mentioning the massive FBI surveillance of the Left during this period), this well-researched book helps fill an important lacuna in FBI studies, especially since its panoply of illegal Cold War techniques, including warrantless wiretaps and break-ins, largely developed before 1941 (usually with the knowledge and approval of higher government officials, thus raising serious questions about the usual depiction of Hoover's FBI as "out of control"). **Summing Up:** Recommended. Upper-division undergraduates and above.—*R. J. Goldstein, University of Michigan at Ann Arbor*

45-5761 HQ792 2007-7865 CIP
 Chudacoff, Howard P. **Children at play: an American history.** New York University, 2007. 267p bibl index afp ISBN 0814716644, \$27.95 ISBN 9780814716649, \$27.95

Chudacoff (Brown) is well known among historians for his efforts to place aspects of the life course in historical perspective. Through earlier works such as *How Old Are You?* (CH, May'90, 27-5314) and *The Age of the Bachelor* (CH, Sep'99, 37-0508), Chudacoff has established a reputation for thoughtful overviews that draw from multiple disciplines to make their case. His latest work is no exception. Here the author considers both the idea and reality of children's play from the Colonial era through the present, with an emphasis on the 20th century. He argues that children have always exercised agency in their choices surrounding play, often defying adults' best efforts to control play through guidance, rules, or the selection of toys. Despite this consistency, he also notes three areas of change. Both children's places of play and their daily schedules have become more confined and controlled; furthermore, their objects of play have become increasingly commercialized. To access young people's own experiences, Chudacoff relies on memoirs and diaries, and pays special attention to the ways that African and Native American experiences differed from those of European Americans. Overall, he has produced an engaging work suitable for undergraduates seeking a sense of US childhood over time. **Summing Up:** Recommended. All undergraduate collections.—*S. Ferentinos, Organization of American Historians*

45-5762 E169 2006-100128 CIP
 Clarke, Michael Tavel. **These days of large things: the culture of size in America, 1865-1930.** Michigan, 2007. 326p bibl index afp ISBN 0472099620, \$65.00 ISBN 9780472099627, \$65.00

Clarke (English, Univ. of Calgary) offers an intriguing, useful reading of a wide variety of cultural artifacts and issues related to the American identification with, and desire for, bigness during the Progressive Age. Along with the obvious topics (economic expansion, the development of the skyscraper), the author addresses a variety of contemporary concerns: eugenics, race, ethnicity, class, and gender (including hegemonic masculinity). Clarke's discussion of these complex topics is broad and accessible, the more remarkable because this is a reworked dissertation. Although the language is scholarly, he glosses his terms (for example, in discussion of Michel Foucault's notion of discourse) before moving on. The final two chapters—"The Growing Woman and the Growing Jew: Mary Antin, the New Woman, and the Immigration Debate" and "The Incredible Industrial Shrinking Man: Upton Sinclair's Challenge to Hegemonic Masculinity"—are particularly noteworthy for their nuanced treatment of complex topics. **Summing Up:** Recommended. All readers, all levels.—*L. L. Beadling, University of Wisconsin—Platteville*

45-5763 E866 2007-32750 CIP
 DeFrank, Thomas M. **Write it when I'm gone: remarkable off-the-record conversations with Gerald R. Ford.** Putnam, 2007. 258p index ISBN 9780399154508, \$25.95

In a private conversation in April 1974, Vice President Gerald Ford told reporter Tom DeFrank that the Nixon presidency would end in disgrace, adding, "when the pages of history are written, nobody can say I contributed to it." Shocked at his own candor and worried how the comment could be misinterpreted, Ford made DeFrank promise to "write it