

Despite my mild criticisms and concern for the reduction in illustrations, I still believe, as I did in 1967, that this text and the Library of American History series are valuable additions to the material needs of the classroom teacher. Used as a source for classroom materials or as a supplementary reading program for students in the specific areas of each volume, i.e., American labor history, this material is an important addition to classroom teacher's resource bag.

The University of Maryland—Asian Division

Paul H. Tedesco

Jane Hovde, *Jane Addams*. New York & Oxford: Facts on File, 1989. Pp. 131. Cloth, \$16.95.

This slim volume is a reminder that in an era of inflated packaging good things can still come in small containers. Jane Hovde's task in preparing a biography of Jane Addams that would fulfill the objectives of the Makers of America series (the four other volumes published to date deal with John Brown, Amelia Earhart, Frederick Douglass, and Martin Luther King) was daunting. She had to summarize the myriad events of a 75-year lifetime of leadership, incorporate the latest scholarship on the most important American woman in the late nineteenth and early twentieth centuries, flavor her presentation with references to Addams's voluminous published and unpublished writings, and add an annotated bibliography. All this had to be accomplished in less than 125 pages and written in a style that would appeal to and could be understood by students. A tall order, but one that the author filled well.

Jane Addams is an elusive figure for contemporary students. It is not that the issues of poverty and peace that defined her life no longer have pertinence; rather it is that Addams as a person comes across in history texts as too perfect to have much popular appeal. It is her reputation—"An American Heroine" is Alan Davis's term--rather than the individual that dominates history. In the opening chapter the author comes close to reinforcing this image by presenting Addams delivering a nominating speech on behalf of Theodore Roosevelt at the Bull Moose convention in 1912. Here she is middle-aged, confident, established, influential. "Aren't you magnificent?" the author quotes from a fan letter from a Wellesley college professor that continued, "What a grand new service you have rendered the human race! Thousands of women are blessing you this day because your new leadership brings us perceptively nearer to the Kingdom of Heaven."

Fortunately this tone of adulation disappears in two excellent chapters on Addams's youth and education. Here the author captures Addams's complex relationships with her parents, step-mother, and siblings that produced both security and unease. The picture of her life at Rockford College shows her growing consciousness of the possibilities of a life of public accomplishment. The account of the painful years between 1881 and 1889, when her rebellion against the suffocating restrictions that society placed on women produced illness and depression, presents a less heroic but more human side of Jane Addams.

The three chapters devoted to Hull House will dispel some of the confusion students often have about this unique social institution. Hovde makes clear to readers accustomed to the professional social service bureaucracy that Addams and other young women were indeed good neighbors to the poor, helping but also learning from them. Living in a single sex community in the heart of Chicago provided a supportive environment for many women as is demonstrated by sketches of the careers of Julia Lathrop, Florence Kelley, Alice Hamilton, and other Hull House residents. Their approach to poverty was not doctrinaire but experimental, responding to neighborhood needs in novel ways. In addition to educational activities the settlement provided public baths, a public kitchen, an art gallery, a coffee house, a playground, and a gymnasium.

Despite its brevity, this volume does justice to the life of Jane Addams and to the history of Hull House by providing sufficient context. Developments in women's higher education, the growth of Chicago, the Pullman Strike, the Columbian Exposition, the suffrage movement, and pacifism during World War I are treated in enough detail to make Addams's response to them intelligible. Nor is the volume confined to the actions of the central figure; Addams's ideas are probed briefly but cogently.

Any teacher at the secondary or beginning college level who is looking for a clear, accurate, interesting biography for classroom or library use should consider this book.

Western Connecticut State University

Herbert Janick

Steven Jantzen. *Hooray for Peace Hurrah for War: The United States During World War I.* New York & Oxford: Facts on File, 1991. Pp. viii, 181. Cloth \$17.95.

One of the *Library of American History* volumes, this book follows their usual formula of weaving original documents in with the author's prose to create a dramatic narrative about some era, or topic, in the American past. The author, a Harvard graduate, has developed a career in writing and editing textbooks.

Jantzen has a general chapter on pre-World War I United States, follows it with one on the assassination of the Archduke in Sarajevo, and one on the reaction to it, and ten more short chapters, four on the period before the U.S. entered, three on the country in the war, one on the armistice, and two on the peace treaty and League of Nations. Chronologically, the book is balanced well enough.

The author features actions by individuals as the device for telling his story. He chooses to use a combination of very well-known people like Theodore Roosevelt and his sons, Eugene V. Debs, and Emma Goldman, along with persons who are unknown, but who left some documentation that could be used to discover their thinking and reactions to events of the time.

With a simple and straight-forward narrative, the work is very easy to read. It flows swiftly and should grab the interest of even the least motivated high school student, although the attempt to create drama may be tiring to some readers. How much it will teach students will still depend on the knowledge and skill of the teacher who is using this volume in class. Most of the time Jantzen provides enough background to let the person he is following at that time be understood in context, but in some cases the teacher will need to supply additional background information on individuals.

Much additional information will be necessary for any student to make intelligent use of this volume to gain a full understanding of the United States in World War I. Two things especially, although they are not the only ones, make it very important that the student have considerable additional input. First, it is not clear at all from this volume why the United States entered the war, primarily because the author does not make it clear that Germany's unrestricted sub warfare beginning in 1917 was different from its earlier warfare, in that Germany planned to sink the vessels of neutral nations, and did, whereas earlier they were sinking only enemy ships. Second, in focusing on the country during the war, the author places so much emphasis on people like Debs and Goldman who opposed the war that the book implies that the war was much more widely opposed than it was. In this way the book is not well-balanced.

Nevertheless, this is generally a well-executed work that should prove readable and usable in secondary and possibly community college history classrooms. It has a brief bibliography and a usable index.

University of North Texas

E. Dale Odom