

He indicates early that a study of poverty requires such disparate facets, and he is able to provide them. His main focus is not, as he explains, a history of poverty as such, but a history of attitudes towards poverty and how that influences social actions about it. He tersely suggests that the change from society seeing poverty as a necessary part of a moral landscape that was shaped by a religious world view to seeing the impoverished as inefficient at best and dangerous at worst started early in European history. His crypto-Marxian (Foucaultian?) conclusion is that "it was through attempts to combat vagrancy and ward off the social dangers of poverty that the state apparatus of repression was shaped." He does not follow up this conclusion with any doctrinaire hypothesis, though. It is, for him, just where his evidence takes him, and he is scrupulous about searching out and thinking about that evidence. The structure of his thinking is clear from chapter titles: e.g. Reformation and Repression: the 1520's, Prisons of Enlightenment.

It is easier to skim the surface of Rosener's book, and a teacher looking for some background for class lectures will be rewarded. A teacher or advanced student trying to come to grips with a persistent historical dilemma, though, will find more to contemplate in Geremek's.

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**Peter Duignan & L. H. Gann. *The United States and the New Europe, 1945-1993*. Cambridge, MA: Blackwell, 1994. Pp. x, 357. Paper, \$21.95. ISBN 1-55786-519-1.**

Peter Duignan and L. H. Gann, both Senior Fellows at the Hoover Institute, have published numerous works concerning African, Hispanic, and European studies. This work represents historical coverage far greater than the title indicates. To prepare the reader, the authors include a concise and very readable introduction that is a synopsis of American-European relations from colonization of the New World until 1945. The bulk of the work is dedicated to support of the thesis: "European and American interests coincide in the long run."

Decidedly optimistic and "Atlanticist," the authors examine NATO, the European Community, and the disintegration of the Soviet Union and its satellites in Eastern Europe. Contending that the post-World War II world order still dominates, the authors believe the United States must maintain its "special relationship" with Great Britain. The future of Europe, however, is Germany. The authors address the subliminal fear that Germany might once again dominate Europe. The "key to the continent," now tied to the reunification of Western and Eastern Germany, will require attention for at least ten years. Duignan and Gann predict that by the time reunification is completed, Germany will be bound to the European supranational organizations.

France, despite the policies of de Gaulle and disagreement with the United States on the Middle Eastern question, remains a cooperative player. Mitterand saw the United States as a "counterweight both against Germany within the EC, and against the former Soviet Union within the global context." Various members of the smaller European states, Holland, Belgium, Norway, and Denmark, have served as the precursors of Europe's economic union as well as founding members of NATO. None of these countries, though sporadic in their support of the United States, has ever relinquished ties to the United States. Postwar Italy, beset by terrorism and communist influence, eventually developed a "special relationship" with the West as the United States supplied massive aid and Italy became a geographically significant member of NATO. Spain, initially encumbered with the dictatorship of Franco, came closer to the West through a defense agreement and economic aid. By the mid-1970s, both Spain and Portugal had established parliamentary government and became part of the western coalition.

The chapters concerning the transformation of East-Central Europe and the Soviet Union are clear, interesting, and well-placed within the context of the years between 1945 and 1985. Beginning with the breakdown of the Warsaw Pact, the authors methodically describe the domino effect of the Soviet Union's decision to cease military support to their governments in Central and Eastern Europe. The 1989

revolutions began in the northern tier of states (Poland, Hungary, East Germany, and Czechoslovakia) and culminated with East Germany's decision to reunify on October 3, 1990. The southern tier states, more divided ethnically, and the poorest of satellite countries, have found transition replete with economic crises, internal wars, and the difficulty of the transformation from socialism to free enterprise. This is problematic not only because of the sheer magnitude of the task but also because the "Old Guard" has remained in many of those areas split by ethnic and religious diversity.

The breakdown of the Soviet Union was essentially completed by the end of 1991. Comprised of 15 republics, the multi-ethnic population experienced ethnic and religious xenophobia, disgust with the domination of the "nomenklatura," the failures of the Soviet Union in Afghanistan, the retreat from the adulation of Leninist teachings, a foreign debt of more than \$70 billion, and the central government's refusal or inability to create a new currency. Yeltsin's initial attempts to privatize industry occurred as breadlines, energy breakdowns, and anxiety increased. The authors see the role of the United States as one of providing machinery, free trade, and technical and financial assistance to dismantle nuclear weapons.

The last three chapters are primarily policy recommendations. For example, the U.S. should promote both the EC and NATO in Europe. The U.S. should not repeat its mistake after World War II, by precipitously pulling troops out of Europe. Internally, the U.S. must stress police protection and reform of the educational system and reduction of the budget deficit. Above all, the U.S. should maintain cooperation with the Atlantic Alliance.

For the most part, this work is well-organized but suffers from the standard problem of chronology versus topical arrangement. For example, the EC, though discussed early in the book, is not clearly described until later chapters. Repetition is fairly common. And the problems of writing recent history are apparent; most of the references are secondary sources. Given the above weaknesses, this remains an excellent reference for an upper-level undergraduate course either in post-1945 Europe or American-European relations. The first five chapters are excellent. They can provide material for lectures on the history of the transatlantic alliance. Because the last three chapters are policy statements, they might best be omitted if used in an undergraduate course. Alternatively, these policy statements could serve well as a vehicle for graduate students to exercise analytical skills. Obvious supplemental work would include research of the events that have occurred since the writing of this book at the end of 1992.

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**George J. Sanchez.** *Becoming Mexican American: Ethnicity, Culture and Identity in Chicano Los Angeles, 1900-1945.* New York & Oxford: Oxford University Press, 1993. Pp. 367. Cloth, \$35.00. ISBN 0-19-506990-0.

*Becoming Mexican American* explores the complex process by which Mexican immigrants and their American-born children living in Los Angeles between 1900 and 1945 were transformed from being Mexicans living in the United States to ethnically and culturally identifying themselves as Mexican Americans. Following an introduction that reviews the historiography, both sociological and historical, on cultural adaptation and ethnic identity of immigrants in general and Mexicans in particular, Sanchez divides his study into four major parts.

Part one, "Crossing Borders," identifies first the changing economic and social factors within Mexico from 1900 to 1920 and then the "attracting" factors in the United States, most often economic opportunity, even if low paying or migratory jobs, that encouraged Mexican peasants and even the middle class to leave first their villages and then their country during this period. The author also sets the Mexican experience in perspective to other immigrant experiences, noting the circular pattern of migration that marked Mexican immigrants as it often did other groups. Although most Mexicans entered through Texas, the search for employment led many of these immigrants eventually to settle in Los Angeles. While students may find the use of graphs, tables, and percentages less than fascinating, this section, like others