

L. Edward Purcell. *Immigration*. Phoenix, AZ, 1995. Pp. xiv, 199. Cloth, \$29.95. ISBN 0-89774-873-5.

After reading this volume it is difficult to disagree with the author's contention that "immigration has been the lifeblood of the American experience," and that "evidence of the importance of immigration is everywhere in modern American society." Four major revisions of U.S. immigration policy since 1986 and political battles over immigration in California in the 1990s attest to the accuracy of these observations. There can be little doubt that immigration is such an integral part of the American experience that it should have a significant place in our classrooms. This book deserves serious consideration in meeting that need. It is intended by the author for use by both high school and college students as well as the general public. Indeed, the book does meet the needs of a wide audience. The author succeeds in just over one hundred pages of text in providing both basic historical information and excellent analysis of the critical phases involved in the immigration of more than 60 million people to America's shores. Along the way he shows that the "social process of immigration has changed little over the nearly four centuries of American life." What has changed has been the politics of immigration.

Immigration has primarily a chronological organization, but with sections of emphasis on specific national or ethnic groups. The strengths of the book are many, but of particular note is the treatment of the impact of the "new immigration" between 1880 and 1920 which "affected the course of American history in fundamental and dramatic ways." As a result, after World War I, "immigration was no longer simply a phenomenon of American life but a problem to be solved." And so it has remained ever since. The author includes a section with specific information on Mexican immigration of the recent past, which is helpful in understanding political and cultural issues related to this topic. Purcell does an exceptional job of providing a thorough discussion and analysis of immigration in a small package. In addition to the one hundred plus pages of narrative, the book contains a chronology of significant events in immigration history (100+ items, by year only), a glossary of 58 important terms, and an extensive (40 pp.) section on further reading. This final section is divided into seventeen topic areas and one of these, "Immigrant Groups," is further divided into subsections on specific ethnic or national groups. The book also contains over a dozen illustrations. *Immigration* provides an excellent source book for teachers and students. It is worth having in each secondary teacher's library and should be considered for student use at both the secondary and beginning college level.

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Ellen Schrecker. *The Age of McCarthyism: A Brief History with Documents*. Boston & New York: Bedford Books of St. Martin's Press, 1994. Pp. xiv, 274. Cloth, \$35.00; ISBN 0-312-10277-1. Paper, \$6.50; ISBN 0-312-08349-1.

Many citizens today still define McCarthyism as part of a brief and aberrational phase of the nation's history when an immoral senator shamelessly manipulated early Cold War hysteria to suit his political ambitions. Those same observers proudly contend that, with few exceptions, past generations of Americans have avoided the kind of paranoia and extremism that allowed McCarthyism to flourish. In contrast to this view, Ellen Schrecker convincingly demonstrates that