

have been available previously in one source and also list references, suggested readings, and notes at the end of each chapter. Colleges and universities, school districts, and those responsible for conducting staff development programs related to multicultural education should include these books in their libraries.

—Margaret A. Laughlin
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James Lafayette Glenn. *My Work among the Florida Seminoles*. Edited with an Introduction by Henry A. Kersey, Jr. (Orlando: University Presses of Florida, 1982) xiii, 121 pp., \$12.00.

James Lafayette Glenn's *My Work among the Florida Seminoles* is a memoir of his five-year tenure (1931-35) as United States agent to the Seminoles. Written in the mid-1940s as a long letter to his daughter, this document remained unpublished in the manuscript holdings of the Fort Lauderdale Historical Society until it was discovered and edited by Harry A. Kersey, the leading student of recent Seminole history.

A minister in Everglades City, Florida, Glenn had been well acquainted with the Seminoles before his appointment to their agency. With a clear idea of their needs, he set out to improve the housing, health care and educational facilities at the Dania Reservation. He launched a much-needed relief program for sick and indigent Seminoles, and he vigorously attacked the booming traffic in bootleg whiskey. Though he recognized that the economic problems of depression-era Seminoles were extreme, Glenn resented the exploitation of Seminole "local color" by the Florida tourist industry. Denouncing this kind of economic development as "professional freakism" (p. 106), Glenn fought both local and national interests to help the Seminoles acquire a land base. Under his guidance the Florida Seminoles built the beginnings of a reservation territory, put together a herd of cattle, and acquired skills in operating heavy machinery for large-scale farming.

The tourist industry, various real estate interests, "hobbyist uplifters" from Miami, and other enemies filled the press with criticisms of Glenn's work. And Glenn had criticisms of his own: Commissioner of Indian Affairs John Collier, architect of the New Deal's "self-determination" Indian policy, was, in Glenn's view, "basically and

fundamentally a pagan—a lover of life in the raw. He romanticizes and idealizes the primitive and jungle life. He would exterminate progress and throw ‘its whole blooming works out.’ The days of the tepee, the tomahawk, war paint and war bonnets belonged to the childhood of the Indian race. If they want to be ‘people too,’ they have got to play a different role in this mighty commonwealth” (p. 111). This opinion of Collier and his policies got Glenn fired.

Though sharply stated, Glenn’s views are hard to categorize. Unlike many Christian ministers, he did not criticize Seminole religious beliefs or social customs and he made no effort to force the people to conform to a rigid set of Anglo-American Protestant values. At the same time, as his remarks on Collier show, he firmly believed that the Seminoles should be educated to contemporary America and assimilated into its society. He had no patience with those whose romanticized notions kept alive the “noble savage” theme. If the Seminoles were not savage, there was also little in their life that was noble, he believed. A hardhead as well as a reformer, Glenn was something of a classic New Dealer, mixing short term economic and social relief with long term economic development. His goal, it seems, was to help the Seminoles survive and “mature” into a fully participating part of the Nation’s population.

Glenn’s memoir gives us a fascinating insider’s perspective on the New Deal Indian Bureau. It also provides an unromanticized view of Seminole life during the depression—a view greatly enhanced by the sixty photographs that accompany the text. Shot by Glenn, an amateur photographer, these pictures are the documentary backbone of the memoir. They, along with Glenn’s text and Kersey’s editorial introduction and notes, add up to a valuable and unique contribution to Seminole history.

— Michael D. Green
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Elsa V. Goveia. *A Study on the Historiography of the British West Indies, to the End of the Nineteenth Century*. (Washington, D.C.: Howard University Press, 1956, 1980) 181 pp., \$8.95 paper.

This is an extremely learned work. Published originally by the Pan American Institute of History and Geography in 1956 and recently reprinted in paperback by Howard Press, *A Study on the Historio-*