highpoint of western regionalist writing and in an era of intense interest in the history of the frontier West.

But emphasis should be on the author’s contributions. Christian has resurrected Owen Payne White as a significant western writer and urges us to reconsider this overlooked author. In doing so, his book models what can be accomplished in dealing with other western writers we have lost.

Richard W. Etulain
University of New Mexico

_The Rockefellers and the Legacy of Ludlow._


This volume is a collection of essays from a symposium held in 2009 at Colorado State University, Pueblo, as part of a Ludlow memorial labor commemoration. The essays explore varying perspectives of the fraught relationship between labor relations in Southern Colorado coal and iron mines and the efforts by the management of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company (CF&I) to reshape its image and its labor force in the wake of the bloody confrontation at Ludlow. In the end, these essays suggest that the company’s efforts, although extensive, were less successful than it might have hoped.

As Sarah Deutsch adumbrates in her historiographic chapter, the scholarship on Ludlow enjoyed a renaissance in the early 2000s. The emergence in recent years of similar anxieties about growing corporate power, income inequality, and immigration may be impelling scholars to reexamine similar issues. Recent scholarship raises new questions about the role of women and the Mexican American community in the work and life of the region and places this extractive economy in an environmental and social context.

The essays in this volume cover a range of issues related to the establishment of what became known as the "Rockefeller Plan" of industrial relations designed to forestall labor unrest in the wake of Ludlow. Robin C. Henry’s essay on John D. Rockefeller Jr’s role in the plan, for example, outlines the way Rockefeller intended to use the plan to "reconstruct the miners" by controlling workers’ personal behavior and instilling in them "Protestant, middle class values" to "decrease worker agitation" (pp. 85–86, 89–90). The Rockefeller Plan included recreational and sporting events for workers’ communities that often reinforced dominant cultural and gender norms, as Pawn-Amber Montoya shows; medical and sociological departments, influenced by the eugenics theories of its
director, Dr. Richard Corwin, sought to shape workers' health and behavior as well, as Brian Classen and Jonathan Rees demonstrate.

Central to the Rockefeller Plan was the "Employee Representation Plan" (ERP) that channeled worker representation through a company-controlled process of grievance resolution. As excellent contributions by Greg Patmore and Ronald Mize reveal, the actual operation of the ERP left much to be desired in the eyes of workers, and as soon as the National Labor Relations Act became law in the mid-1930s, CF&I workers traded their company union for real ones. Mize's article, in particular, contextualizes the actual working conditions that led to the company's labor strife in the first place and explores the chasm between the company's employee relations PR and the actual experience of workers.

Making an American Workforce is a useful addition to the historiography on CF&I's ERP, and raises new questions about the program's effectiveness in "making" workers.

John Lloyd
California State Polytechnic University, Pomona


The American Civil War was a continental conflict. As such, the maw of war sucked up blood and treasure in a wide variety of places, including some that, due to the enormity of the conflict elsewhere, faded into obscurity. Secessionist flags bit the breeze across many of the western territories in the early days of the war, far from the concentrations of slave labor and staple wealth that seemed to be the underlying cause of the conflict. In 1861 the West was populated by individuals who failed to succeed in the east and went west to live on their own accord; when disunion broke the national bonds, many of these same men followed their instincts and joined the Confederate cause—the revolutionary and anti-establishment option of its day.

In his book, Rebels in the Rockies: Confederate Irregulars in the Western Territories, Walter Pittman examines a few groups of these contrary men, in particular the San Elizario Spy Company, the Arizona Guards, the Arizona Rangers, and the Brigands, all gathered during the Confederate invasion of New Mexico Territory in 1861–1862. Other groups, including pro-Confederates, who gathered in Colorado and utilized the southern cause to excuse simple brigandry, are also discussed.