

during the war, when the Aleuts were forcefully removed to southeastern Alaska. Chapter nine tells of the return of the Aleuts to villages ravaged by the American military and the struggle to put their lives back together. Chapter ten outlines the political struggle, and eventual success, to receive restitution for those years spent away from home.

Least all the blame for the Aleut tragedy be laid at the doorstep of the American government, it must be noted that residents of the other village, Attu, were removed to Japan in September 1942 by the Japanese Army. The calamitous results of this removal are mutely testified to in the death of 20 Aleuts during their incarceration in Japan.

On the critical side, tables of how many, when, and where the Aleuts were moved would have enhanced the academic value of the book. Several re-readings were necessary to tentatively ascertain that 857 of the 894 Aleuts on the chain in 1942 were removed to southeastern Alaska.

In the same vein, on page one hundred, it is stated that 137 Aleuts from Unalaska arrived at the Wrangell Institute on Wrangell Island on the S. S. *Alaska*, 1 August 1942. Of the 138 Aleut residents of Unalaska (p. 7), one was not removed (p. 83). This indicates that all the Unalaskans were on the S. S. *Alaska*. However, on pages 99-100, it is stated that "Aleuts from Akutan, Biorka, Kashaga, Makushin, Nikolski, and Unalaska arrived in Southeast [Alaska?]" aboard the S. S. *Columbia*. If all the Aleuts of Unalaska were removed on the S. S. *Alaska*, who were the Unalaskans on the S. S. *Columbia*? Statistical tables would have done much to forestall such editorial errors and would have enhanced the academic aspects of the book.

As an ethnologist, I wished to see more critical inquiry into the racial aspects of the decision to remove the Aleuts and more discussion of the ugly living conditions to which the Aleuts were subjected during their internment. However, that is probably a subject for another study.

Aside from the above critical comments, I highly recommend *When the Wind Was a River* to the general reader, as well as to students of history and sociopolitics. Kolhoff's pioneering study is a strong incentive for scholars to continue research into the tragic circumstances of the 42 Attuans incarcerated in Japan.

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Laws Harsh as Tigers: Chinese Immigrants and the Shaping of Modern Immigration Law. By Lucy E. Salyer. (Chapel Hill: University of North Carolina Press, 1995. xix + 338 pp. Illustrations, tables, appendix, notes, bibliography, index. \$45.00, cloth; \$17.95, paper.)

Lucy E. Salyer adds another important dimension to a new field that combines legal studies and the history of Asian Americans. Salyer received her doctorate in jurisprudence and social policy from University of California, Berkeley, and now teaches in the history department at the University of New Hampshire. Researching for this book, she studied district and circuit court records, immigration and naturalization records, and other federal and state documents in order to trace the changing social and legal history of restrictive immigration policies, their enforcement between 1891 and 1924, and their effect upon modern immigration law. Bill Ong Hing, Sucheng Chan, Christian Fritz, and Charles J. McClain in their recent works on Asian Americans and the law laid the foundation for this study.

Salyer looks at how restrictions against the Chinese affected other immigrant groups (and vice versa) while weaving into the tapestry the activities of nativist groups, the growing power of the immigration bureau and its officials, the protests by Chinese organizations and their non-Asian supporters,

and the changing moods of the nation. The effect of these developments resulted in immigration laws and practices that were "harsh as tigers" regionally and nationally.

Salyer studies over seven thousand case files in order to trace the interrelationships between branches of the federal government, attorneys for the Chinese, and the courts. She examines the use of the writ of *habeas corpus* between 1898 and 1905, the expansion of executive power between 1905 and 1924, and the new strategies that were adopted by both the pro-immigrant factions and the nativist organizations and their supporters. The restrictive 1924 Immigration Act was a victory for the latter. Salyer covers key cases, such as *Nishimura Ekiu* and *Ju Toy*, in detail. She makes far-reaching implications describing how other immigrant groups became excluded because of precedents established by these cases.

The book is well researched and well written. There are some minor problems. The Sze Yup *huiguan* (associations) actually dominated in the Six Companies, not the Sam Yup (p. 58). In discussing fraudulent Chinese cases, Salyer should have balanced the presentation by pointing out how immigration officials abused power. One wealthy official committed suicide as a direct result of charges brought against him for accepting bribes from Chinese immigrants seeking admission. Salyer neglected to point out Commissioner General of Immigration Anthony Caminetti's connection in white slave trade, which was exposed in Congress. Nevertheless, this is an important study for American historians of the late nineteenth and twentieth centuries, especially those who focus upon the American West, immigration, nativism, ethnicity, and Asian Americans.

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A Narrative Bibliography of the African-American Frontier: Blacks in the Rocky Mountain West, 1535-1912. By Roger D. Hardaway. (Lewiston, NY: Edwin Mellen Press, 1995. ii + 242 pp. Appendix, indexes. \$89.95.)

Roger Hardaway's book is an excellent example of inquiry into what has been an obscure and difficult area of history and bibliography-making. Only in the past few years have we seen systematized studies of black history—western black history—carried out by researchers; this clearly stands as one of the best.

One might nitpick about the author's definition of "Rocky Mountain Area" (excluding Canada, for instance), or the lack of entries about African Americans whose "western" presence devolved from their flight to northern Mexico. But these are small points over which to quibble.

Sections that seem especially helpful are "Estevanvico" and "The Spanish Colonial Frontier," which give proper emphases to the varied roles played by Spanish/Moorish pioneers in what would become the western United States. Similarly, the section "Black Mormons" covers a topic that is controversial at root and only recently studied in detail. "Sources for Young Readers" is too brief, but it does indicate the need for bibliographies aimed at youth, who have few models for understanding the black presence in American history. Though some of the commentaries are too short and appear to be little more than "book jacket" condensations, the overwhelming majority are informative and insightful.

This is truly a unique publication and will help all who are interested in American History, whether it be categorized as "black" or not.