

Book Notes

Given publication delays, we have developed a backlog of books for review. While we intend to publish reviews of these titles in the next issue, the Book Review Editor feels that it would be useful to alert our members to them now:

Crucible of the Millennium: The Burned-Over District of New York in the 1840s.

MICHAEL BARKUN

Syracuse, N.Y.: Syracuse University Press, 1986; (A New York State Study); xi, 194pp., notes, bibliography, index; illus.; \$27.50 hardcover; \$14.95 paperback.

Building on his earlier work, *Disaster and the Millennium*, Barkun develops a model of the millenarian process as a group response to stress in society. Compares the Millerites with Utopian groups, especially those connected with western New York. Notes parallels with modern communal and fundamentalist groups.

Shaker Communities, Shaker Lives.

PRISCILLA J. BREWER

Hanover, N.H. and London: University Press of New England, 1986; xviii, 273pp., notes, bibliography, appendices, index; map, plates; \$24.95 hardcover.

Emphasizes the experience of individual Shakers in an examination of the causes and internal impact of the decline of the group. Research is based on the Shaker communities in New England and eastern New York, 1774-1904, concentrating on the internal life both of the communities and of their individual members. Includes glossary of Shaker terms, and statistical appendices for the communities.

**The Utopian Novel in America 1886-1896:
The Politics of Form.**

JEAN PFAELZER

Pittsburgh: University of Pittsburgh Press, 1985; notes, bibliography, index; \$21.95 hardcover.

Using over one hundred Utopian novels, investigates the apparent philosophy of history prevalent in the society, the image of history developed in the Utopian novel, and the impact of this image on the narrative form of the romance. Classifies the novels as "Progressive," "Pastoral," "Conservative," "Apocalyptic," "Dystopian." Includes discussions of "The Woman Question" as a separate category.

The History of the Kibbutz: Communal Education, 1904-1929.

REUVEN PORAT (JOSEPH R. BLASI, English editor) (Appendix by DAVID MEYERS)

Norwood, Penn.: Norwood Editions, 1985; (Volume 10, Kibbutz Studies Book Series of Yad Tabenkin Institute); xlvii, 209 pp., bibliographic references, appendices; \$25.00 hardcover.

Translation of a book published in Hebrew in Israel in 1977. The first systematic review of the history of communal education in the kibbutz, concentrating on the period 1904-1929. Includes 43 page appendix, arranged alphabetically, defining and explaining major terms, movements, and people relevant to the topic; plus statistical appendices.

**Builders of the Dawn: Community Lifestyles in a
Changing World.**

CORINNE MCLAUGHLIN and GORDON DAVIDSON

Walpole, N.H.: Stillpoint Publishing, 1985; [x], 372pp., notes, bibliography, photographs, maps; \$12.95 paperback.

Analytical study of "new age" communal societies, arguing that as a whole they provide laboratories for developing a new social structure for humanity. Based on authors' personal experiences as commune members (particularly of Findhorn) and founders of Sirius community, as well as visits to many communities. Includes comparison of 1960's with 1980's communes.

Mormonism in Conflict: The Nauvoo Years.

ANNETTE P. HAMPSHIRE

New York and Toronto: Edwin Mellen Press, 1985; (Studies in Religion and Society, vol. 11); 343pp.; notes, bibliography, index; \$59.95 hardcover.

Examines the Nauvoo period as an example of the emergence and escalation of hostility to an "outside" group. Nauvoo is interesting since within five years attitudes toward the Mormons had changed from those of welcome and sympathy to outright individual and societal violence. Focus is on Hancock county, and its reaction, rather than on the experience of the members of the Mormon church. Research relies heavily on the non-Mormon Illinois press.