

Vatican I in 1869, cast his episcopal vote in favor of papal infallibility. He and his fellow prelates were quick to impose canonical sanctions on native clergy, slow to comprehend Hispanic culture, open in their support of the Confederacy, and at ease with the ownership of slaves.

Scholars will readily note the author's failure to consult the important archives of St. Mary's of the Barrens (Perryville, Mo.), the Blanch Archives (New Orleans), and the Corpus Christi Diocesan Archives where the letters of Msgr. Claude Jaillet are deposited. Nevertheless, the author provides an excellent narrative history sensitive to the issues confronting the church. This volume should find a merited place in college and church libraries.

*Glendale Community College and
Arizona State University-West*

GILBERT R. CRUZ

Modest Fortunes: Mining in Northern Baja California. By Donald Chaput, William M. Mason, and David Zarate Loperena. (Los Angeles, Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County, 1992. 248 pp. \$75)

Pearls, silver, copper, and salt have produced notable wealth in Baja California Sur through four centuries. Baja California Norte revealed scattered and varied mineral deposits in the 1840s. Booms at Real del Castillo and El Alamo came only with spreading of the mining frontier after the 1860s. For over a century merchants and sellers of "promising" claims made "modest fortunes." Onyx deposits at El Marmol were productive from 1900 until 1962. Cheaper mainland sources and plastics ended this activity. Twice in this century wartime demands stimulated tungsten mining, but labor strikes ended this by 1944. Throughout northern Baja California hundreds of bodies of various ores have been opened and quickly exhausted.

Evaluated on the basis of this mining activity alone, the area has not been a source of great wealth; however, mining was primarily responsible for the settlement and development of Ensenada which, in turn, created significant trade for San Diego and Los Angeles. Wide-ranging prospectors made the region better known to non-Indians and mining refueled tales of hidden riches. If legendary Queen Calafia and her Amazons were to appear they would increase their defense of the peninsula.

The authors are well acquainted with Baja California. Though

they call their efforts a "sampling," it is a major attempt to put the mining history into better perspective. They cover the "Baja California Setting," seven mining personalities, pioneering reports, "The First Boom" (1870-1890), "The Dream Explored" (1890-1910), "The Twentieth Century," and conclude with a brief "Epilogue." A folding map locates major sites and also provides a "geological profile" from Ensenada to the Colorado River. A glossary, five-page bibliography, good index, and many photos, diagrams, and sketches enrich the volume. Glen Dawson produced fifty volumes of his excellent "Baja California Travel Series." This fifty-first book by the Natural History Museum of Los Angeles County keeps the series alive. It is hoped that the mining of varied peninsular lodes will continue this high quality production indefinitely.

San Diego

EUGENE KEITH CHAMBERLIN

The End of American Exceptionalism: Frontier Anxiety from the Old West to the New Deal. By David M. Wrobel. (Lawrence, University of Kansas Press, 1993. x + 233 pp. \$27.50)

This short but heavily documented monograph is an "effort to categorize and synthesize expressions of frontier anxiety and to trace their effect on the events and debates of the times" (p. viii). David M. Wrobel argues that concern over the closing of the frontier in the United States was evident by the 1880s and continued to be a significant element in American thought through the 1930s.

Perceptions of the phenomenon's relevance changed, however, and this fact is reflected in the tripartite organization that Wrobel uses to organize his material: "Before 1890," "The Closed Frontier," and "Postfrontier Anxiety." During the 1880s advocates of particular land, immigration, and, to a lesser extent, foreign policies incorporated the impending closing of the frontier in their arguments. During the next decade anxiety became "acute" (p. 25) and was reflected in the writings of journalists, novelists, academics, politicians, and other policy makers promoting both internal and external solutions to the problems of a frontierless nation. "Post-frontier anxiety" continued into the progressive era and "was as important a part of the cultural milieu...as frontier anxiety had been in the climate of the late nineteenth century" (p. 85). During the 1920s vocal Malthusians sounded the theme of a vanished