Horace Kephart Writings

Carol Walker Jordan

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In the 1930’s, the Works Projects Administration sought to include unemployed women in work relief programs. Susannah Walker’s analysis notes the WPA provided sewing rooms as a gender approved option, limiting women from obtaining needed industrial skills for higher paying jobs in the garment industry. Becca Walton, co-editor and contributor, relates how the incarcerated at the Mississippi State Penitentiary at Parchman used sewing skills and creativity to assert their humanity. In The Mississippi Poor People’s Corporation, William Sturkey describes how clothing production by poor black Mississippians provided for their economic advancement and represented true Black Power in the late sixties and seventies.

“The Dress Makes the Band,” the final essay in the collection, profiles the rise of a bohemian culture in Athens, Georgia which visually represented itself through thrift store and secondhand clothing. Elizabeth Hale, contributor and author of the book Cool Town: How Athens, Georgia, Launched Alternative Music and Changed American Culture, describes how, in the nineteen seventies and early eighties, mostly middle class students and local nonconformists created a lifestyle and sub-society based on alternative values and expressed it through their music, art, and vintage, thrift store clothes.

Introducing and exploring the themes featured in this series of scholarly essays, Ted Ownby and Jonathan Prude lead the reader to an understanding of common threads that tie these studies together. A list of contributors, along with select illustrations and extensive notes and index, make this a recommended volume for academic libraries with historical and sociological collections on the Southeastern United States.

Melanie Dunn, University of Tennessee at Chattanooga

Horace Kephart Writings

707 p. $45.00 (Pbk)

In 24 short chapters, Lon Kelly Savage and Ginny Savage Ayers present a dramatic account of the coal miners’ strike and the resulting violent crackdown by mine operators in the Paint and Cabin Creeks region of West Virginia that took place in

Carol Walker Jordan, Ph.D., MLIS

Never Justice, Never Peace: Mother Jones and the Miner Rebellion at Paint and Cabin Creeks

Lon Kelly Savage and Ginny Savage Ayers Morgantown: West Virginia University Press, 2018
ISBN: 9781946684370
360 p. $27.99 (Pbk)

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