

New Books:

Editorial Note: The staff at *Upper Country* would like to introduce the reader to some of the latest books that have been published on the region. Available through online retailers.

Bill Belffy. *U.P. Colony: The Story of Resource Exploitation in Upper Michigan — Focus on Sault Sainte Marie Industries*. Sault Ste. Marie, Mich.: Ziibbi Press, imprint of Modern History Press, 5145 Pontiac Trail, Ann Arbor, 2021. MI ISBN 978-1-615996-06-3, \$12.95.

For many historians it is obvious that the Upper Peninsula of Michigan was exploited as a colony for the emerging of the industrial United States. There are many examples that could be studied: commercial fishing, timber industry, and copper and iron mining. Belffy focused on Sault Ste. Marie, Michigan to answer a portion of this question in a master's thesis. He used Pablo Gonzales-Casanova's six-point paradigm concerning colonial development: "1. The economy of an internal colony is structured to compliment that of the colonial center; 2. The 'development' is tied to one predominant sector; 3. The monopoly structure is controlled by one colonial center; 4. There exists an obvious disparity in the standards of living between colony and center; 5. There exists a repressive conflict-resolution structure; and 6. there is a tendency for existing inequalities to increase over time." This are from the author's abstract at the start of the book.

Belffy goes into detail to prove his thesis that Michigan's UP (and Sault Ste. Marie in particular was an "internal colony" subject to financial interests in the Lower Peninsula, the East Seaboard of the United States, and other areas. His statistics and examples show how companies outside the U.P. exported the area's resources of furs, forests, copper, and iron for some 400 years, shipping resources away from the area for outside gain rather than true development of the Upper Peninsula. The author also shows how the pattern of exploitation continues today in a 2021 updated conclusion to his original thesis. The books is the recipient of the UP Notable Books Award.

Jane Kopecky. *World War II Conscientious Objectors: Germfask: The Alcatraz Camp*. [Germfask, Mich.: Privately Published, 2020.

Jane Kopecky reveals the nearly-forgotten story of Camp Germask, the former Civilian Conservation Corps camp, where some of the most ardent war-resisters among World War II conscientious objectors were held for 13 months in 1944 and 1945. Opponents of the war and conscription on a variety of religious, pacifist, or political grounds, these recalcitrant dissenters dared imprisonment as they refused to cooperate with rules of the Selective Service. Instead of jail, they ended up in what some of them called the Alcatraz of CO camps and their sympathizers elsewhere in the country called "America's Siberia." In interview transcripts, memoirs, and documents collected by Jane Kopecky, their lives and their relations with their Germfask and other Upper Peninsula neighbors come alive. This book provides new insights into the history of the UP. The reader would have been best served if the location of the archives and library where the original documents and oral histories were preserved was noted along with the origin of photographs. Recipient of the UP Notable Books Award.