come alive for readers of the English language. Seldom have such
Delegorgue's passion as an observer is seen in the memorable descrip-
interrelationship between Zulu, Boer and Briton, seen against the pris-
the dated nature of this volume apparent than in the Bundy article
The 'Economy and labour' section consists of four articles on topics
The 'Politics and society' section consists of four articles on topics
The 'History and society' section consists of four articles on topics

The interested reader will welcome the comprehensive source list, which includes a list of the consulted newspapers, official publications and secondary sources, as well as an impressive list of archival sources that were consulted locally and abroad. The sources are quoted in


South African historians focus on a particular time period of intrest. The angry divide focusses instead on a particular region: the Western Cape. This volume largely consists of papers presented at the Western Cape: Roots and Realities conference held by the Centre for African Studies at the University of Cape Town. Some of these papers have already appeared in print elsewhere. Perhaps it is the wide subject area of this conference that has resulted in only the major shortcomings of this volume — a lack of a coherent

ADULPHE DELEGORGUE. Travels in Southern Africa. Volume I. (Translated from the French by Fleur Webb.) Killie Campbell

I thoroughly enjoyed and appreciated reading Delegorgue's Travels. Painted with Gallic élan, Delegorgue presents his flamboyant and graphic record with bold and evocative strokes. With all credit to the gifted translator Fleur Webb, the narrative engrosses one with its engaging style. Delegorgue's vibrant personality permeates every page. He had a zest and curiosity for life that filled his experience with real interest, but he is far from being overwhelmed by the dynamic events in which he was an active and courageous participant.

The eventuality availability of the full text of this source in this handsome volume makes it a must for historians interested in the period 1838-1844. Delegorgue is an incisive and independent observer of the interrelationship between Zulu, Boer and Briton, seen against the pristine loveliness of Natal's nature in most of its forms. His contribution is unique because he maintains his proud French outlook as he minu-

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CONTREE 30/1991


South African historians focus on a particular time period of intrest. The angry divide focusses instead on a particular region: the Western Cape. This volume largely consists of papers presented at the Western Cape: Roots and Realities conference held by the Centre for African Studies at the University of Cape Town. Some of these papers have already appeared in print elsewhere. Perhaps it is the wide subject area of this conference that has resulted in only the major shortcomings of this volume — a lack of a coherent unifying theme. Chapters are loosely grouped under three headings: 'Historical foundations'; 'Economy and labour'; and 'Politics and society'. Some of the more interesting contributions in these three areas will be assessed.

Nigel Perkins' chapter on land, labour and livestock in the Western Cape of the 18th century represents a competent overview of some of the major developments of this period — ongoing European territorial expansion and the destruction of Khoisan society. Nigel Worden's study of the effects of the emancipation of slaves is both insightful and interesting in its discussion of the different modes of production that emerged in the Western and Eastern Cape. The cultivation of produce in both regions to employ wage labour precluded the proletarianization of freed men. Instead many were kept in service through devices such as the 'dop' system or through a cycle of indebtedness. This tendency was reinforced by legislative measures such as the Masters and Servants Act. In his contribution Hermann Giliomee looks at the political origins of the consistent support that Western Cape wine and wheat farmers have shown for the Afrikaner nationalist movement. (It is interesting to note that this group still forms the bedrock of National Party support today.) Economic concerns coincided with concern about the political status of Afrikaners, which resulted in the rural Western Cape becoming 'the most solidly bourgeois wing of Afrikaner nationalism'.

The 'Economy and labour' section consists of four articles on topics ranging from Van Duin's look at artisans and trade unions in the Cape Town building industry to Maree's more contemporary study of the General Workers' Union (GWU). Richard Goode looks at the Wolseley general strike of 1953-1954. Alan Mabin explores the change of South Africa's economic geography. It is argued that the reasons for this change were intimately tied up with agricultural depression in the Western Cape and the discovery of minerals in the Transvaal in the late 19th century. This resulted in much investment being channelled to the Transvaal at the expense of the Cape. Based on Maree's first-hand experiences of the emergence of the independent trade unions, his chapter on the GWU sheds light on the transformation of an advice bureau into a major force on the shop-floor. Particular atten-
capitalism. It is argued that the reasons for this change were intimately tied up with agricultural depression in the Western Cape and the discovery of minerals in the Transvaal in the late 19th century. This resulted in much investment being channelled to the Transvaal at the expense of the Cape. Based on Maree's first-hand experiences of the emergence of the independent trade unions, his chapter on the GWU sheds light on the transformation of an advice bureau into a major force on the shop-floor. Particular attention is paid to major strikes involving the GWU and the political stance of this union.

More problematic is the 'Politics and society' section of this volume. It is here that the dated nature of this volume becomes most apparent: almost all the chapters were written in 1986, while this compilation was published in 1989. Don Pinnock's chapter on 'The urban policy, the Humphries article seems at times to be little more than a 'shopping list' of dates and figures without any useful line of argument. It is also undoubtedly intended to note the exact extent to which the black population of Cape Town increased between 1960 and 1970, but it is unclear what this really means in broader political terms. No more is the dated nature of this volume apparent than in the Bundy article dealing with 'youth-student' resistance in the Western Cape. Written before the full effect of emergency repression was felt, Bundy is optimistic to the point of naive. He sees radical youths as being a source of both 'militant cadres' and intellectuals. Today the hollow-

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