

**Callow, Alexander B., ed. *The City Boss in America: An Interpretive Reader*. Toronto: Oxford University Press, 1976, Pp. xi, 335. \$6.95**

A. F. J. Artibise

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to formulate a coherent critical theory for the investigation of American socialism". [Wesley T. Wooley, University of Victoria].

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Callow, Alexander B., ed. The City Boss in America: An Interpretive Reader. Toronto: Oxford University Press, 1976, Pp. xi, 335. \$6.95.

In the middle of the nineteenth century a major transformation took place in American life, and the agrarian society which had been dominant was replaced by a modern, urban and industrialized society, a society which created an American original - the city boss. This anthology covers the history of the city boss, from the middle of the nineteenth century to the present. Six sections containing twenty-seven articles cover critical features of machine politics: the rise of the boss, the running of the machine, the boss and the immigrant, corruption, the boss and the reformer, and the modern machine. Each is preceded by a commentary by the editor which supplements the selections. The selections themselves are interpretive rather than descriptive, and are taken from the works of specialists in urban studies, ranging from historians, political scientists, and sociologists to journalists and politicians. Together the essays provide a solid background for understanding urban politics by describing the role and functions of the old-fashioned machine, its response to modern urbanization, and the ways in which it has evolved and changed through time.

The City Boss in America also contains a short but useful select bibliography. [A.F.J. Artibise, University of Victoria].

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Schwartz, Barry, ed. The Changing Face of the Suburbs. Chicago: The University of Chicago Press, 1976. Pp. ix, 355. \$16.00.

During the 1960's, when the problems of the cities commanded so much attention, city populations in the United States were for the