

text. Again there is absolutely no description of slavery as an institution or a way of life, and the term "slave" itself is nowhere defined. All that is mentioned is that the South was convinced that slavery was absolutely necessary to the maintenance of their economy, and a group of people in the North called abolitionists felt that slavery was an evil. But there is not even a hint of the reasons for the latter's antipathy to slavery. Indeed, if anything, the authors' treatment of slavery can be called favorable. In a subsection entitled "UNCLE TOM'S CABIN CAUSES TROUBLE," they have this to say of Harriet Beecher Stowe's novel:

It told of the sufferings of the slaves of the South and of the cruelty of the slave owners.

Actually *Uncle Tom's Cabin* was not a fair nor a truthful picture of the conditions of the slaves. Although some slaves may have been badly treated, for the most part, they were not.

Slaves represented a great deal of money to their owners, and their owners took care of them. There was also in many cases a close feeling between the slaves and their masters which the Abolitionists did not understand (page 288).

The treatment of the events leading up to the Civil War is generally brief and inadequate. The Dred Scott Decision (*Dred Scott vs. Sandford*, 1857) for instance is described as follows:

The Supreme Court of the United States decided two things: (1) that Dred Scott was still a slave, and (2) that a slave owner had a right to take his slaves to any part of the country where there were no laws against slavery (page 290).

The part of the decision which most upset the North—that Congress could take no action with relation to slavery in the territories—is completely ignored.

The treatment of the Civil War (which in these pages is almost invariably called The War Between the States) focuses mainly upon military events; however, this novel and fanciful account of the origins of the Emancipation Proclamation is given:

During the war the people of the South had been using their slaves to do many jobs which helped in the war effort. They cooked for the army, dug trenches, drove wagons.

The leaders in the North said that something should be done to stop this use of slaves. Lincoln's answer was the Emancipation Proclamation (pages 307-309).

There is no mention of the participation of the Negro in the Northern war effort.

The brief treatment of Reconstruction is the standard anti-Radical Republican pro-Southern Democrat account. Again there is no attempt to describe the condition of the freedmen. The Thirteenth and Fourteenth amendments are mentioned without comment, and the Fifteenth is described with an obvious lack of approval:

The right to vote or to hold office was not given to the leaders of the Confederacy. However, the Negroes were given these rights,