



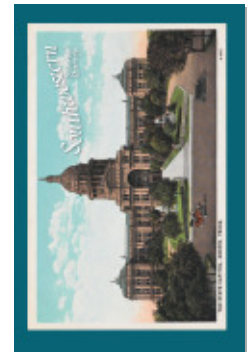
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Our Fighting Governor: The Life of Thomas M. Campbell and the Politics of Progressive Reform in Texas by Janet Schmelzer (review)

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American art" (161). I would simply add that this "full assessment" should also elevate Onderdonk's work in the estimation of lovers of early Texas art as well.

Panhandle-Plains Historical Museum

MICHAEL R. GRAUER

Our Fighting Governor: The Life of Thomas M. Campbell and the Politics of Progressive Reform in Texas. By Janet Schmelzer. (College Station: Texas A&M University Press, 2014. Pp. 320. Illustrations, map, notes, bibliography, index.)

For a brief moment early in the twentieth century—the Progressive Era—there was a time in Texas when politics were competitive and liberal reform was a viable option. Southern Progressivism that accentuated political and economic reform over social issues was popular in the state. Thomas M. Campbell served as Texas's governor during that era, from 1907 to 1911. He is generally considered the best example of a Progressive governor in Texas and was probably the state's most effective reformer. Nevertheless, Campbell's predecessor, James S. Hogg, is popularly associated with reform in Texas. Considering that Texans have mostly forgotten their state's liberal past along with Campbell's many political reforms, this work by Janet Schmelzer is long overdue.

Campbell was born in Rusk in 1856 and was a childhood friend of Hogg, who became both an influence on and benefactor to him. By 1884, Campbell was a successful lawyer in Longview with a reputation as an expert on civil and criminal statutes. It was his skill as a lawyer and familiarity with the International and Great Northern Railroad (IGN), and his friendship with Hogg, that propelled Campbell into the public eye. The IGN, owned by Jay Gould, was in danger of being taken over by the Kansas, Missouri and Texas Railroad. To avoid this, Gould forced the IGN into receivership. Hogg suggested Campbell as the receiver for the IGN, and the judge administering the receivership agreed. Campbell fended off Gould, ran the railroad efficiently, and even increased profits by 67 percent. Ultimately, Gould sued to regain control of the IGN in a case in which the U.S. Supreme Court affirmed the validity of the Texas Railroad Commission. This experience cemented Campbell's reputation as a legal expert and a Progressive.

The IGN experience also contributed to Campbell's viability as a political candidate. Democrats groomed him for great things. In 1896, Campbell served on the platform committee that approved planks endorsing free silver, an income tax, the railroad commission, and William J. Bryan—co-opting the People's Party. Campbell's name was subsequently mentioned for various government posts. In 1906, he ran for governor and won. Schmelzer writes, "Campbell's victory represented a major step

forward for southern progressivism in Texas” and his platform “stood as the strongest statement of progressive ideals to that time” (52). Campbell as governor pushed legislation that regulated the lumber, beef, and oil industries. He opposed legislation that allowed consolidation of the Atchison, Topeka and Santa Fe and some smaller railroads, asserting it would create a monopoly. When the bill passed, Campbell issued a 5,000-word veto message. He also revamped public school funding, championing legislation to allow districts to levy school taxes.

Campbell was a typical Southern Progressive, but he proved more effective than most. He was not proactive on racial issues, holding the standard paternal, if not outright racist, ideals. Nevertheless, he reformed government, education, and industry, and he was truly a trustbuster. More importantly, he did all of that and was a Texan.

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The Great Call-Up: The Guard, the Border, and the Mexican Revolution. By Charles H. Harris III and Louis R. Sadler. (Norman: University of Oklahoma Press, 2014. Pp. 576. Illustrations, maps, notes, bibliography, index.)

In *The Great Call-Up*, the frighteningly prolific Charles H. Harris III and Louis R. Sadler chronicle the massive 1916 mobilization of the U.S. National Guard to the border with Mexico in order to protect the United States against possible incursions by Mexican troops during the Mexican Revolution. Harris and Sadler convincingly demonstrate that the National Guard’s mobilization deserves to be understood as an event separate from Gen. John J. Pershing’s better-known Punitive Expedition against Pancho Villa in 1916, perhaps even eclipsing the latter expedition in its significance for U.S. military history.

Harris and Sadler provide what can best be characterized as a painstakingly detailed account of the National Guard’s mobilization, which is bookended by a brief historiographical contextualization and analysis. The authors demonstrate a mastery of the minutiae of military details, and their attention to these details will surely be appreciated by military historians. They also, by arranging their narrative by the geographic locations in which the National Guard’s regiments served, provide some interesting snapshots into the mobilization’s significance for the servicemen and the cities and towns where they found themselves stationed. For instance, the mobilization of the National Guard to Corpus Christi produced an immediate boon to local merchants and businessmen, who would feel the deep pangs of the National Guard’s removal once high command mustered the men out. Furthermore, when guardsmen left Laredo, “some unscrupulous enlisted men ‘sold’ the buildings in their camp to innocent and trust-