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Caring and Curing: A History of the Indian Health Service. By James P. Rife and Capt. Alan J. Dellapenna Jr.

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Policy, which involved treating Native Americans with a degree of respect that locals found altogether unacceptable. For example, with regard to the 1871 Camp Grant Massacre perpetrated upon the Aravaipa Apaches by Mexican Americans, Anglo Americans, and Tohono O'odhams, federal officials insisted upon finding and repatriating at least some of the Aravaipa captives taken by the Tusconans and their allies during that affair.

*Captive Arizona* includes a remarkable gallery of photographs of its subjects. Smith goes out of her way to establish the public's fascination with Olive Oatman's appearance, so it is somewhat odd that she lets the images pass without comment. The embroidery on the dress Oatman is wearing seems to mimic the tattoos on her face, and other images seem likewise full of pregnant details.

On the whole, *Captive Arizona* offers several new and interesting cases of captivities with comparative potential. It also suggests that territorialization transformed the practice of captivity. As settler society expanded, the time and isolation required to acculturate a captive were no longer available to Natives. That is not to say that captivity disappeared. For the victors, it became a matter of formal policy, as evidenced by residential schools. In southern Arizona, the years covered by Smith's study represent the fulcrum of that change.

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**Caring and Curing: A History of the Indian Health Service.** By James P. Rife and Capt. Alan J. Dellapenna Jr. Landover, MD: PHS Commissioned Officers Foundation for the Advancement of Public Health, 2009. 170 pages. \$34.95 cloth.

A comprehensive review of the Indian Health Service (IHS), complete with colorful pictures and fascinating notes of interest, provides for an educational coffee-table hardcover book about the federal IHS. From its birth during the 1800s to current-day activities, this book chronicles events, major pieces of legislation, and historical points of fact. Absent from the book is the dark side of the tragedy that faced American Indians during those early years of starvation, death, and imprisonment. Reasons for this absence may be that information about these dismal facts would reduce the colorful portrayal of the IHS and those federal leaders that were paid to work within the system. Identification and discussion of American Indian leaders who fought to preserve the lives of their people, along with Indian lawyers and advocates who testified before Congress and worked tirelessly behind the scenes for this

group, is a significant shortfall. Clearly this document is intended to continue the charge to elevate the IHS as a significant savior of the Indian people.

*Caring and Curing: A History of the Indian Health Service* is a well-researched document, complete with pages of references. It chronicles the history of the IHS, when the health and welfare of American Indians were in the hands of the Department of the Interior (a little known fact is that this effort began in the Department of War), through several reorganizations and policies that restricted American Indian tribes and provided health-care services to Indian communities. Highlighted in the document is the 1955 transfer of the program to the US Public Health Service, which was a major event in the lives of Indian people. Additional transfers and adjustments within the system resulted in the current-day relationship between the IHS and federally recognized tribes and communities across the United States.

*Caring and Curing* is a history book, a colorful presentation of tribes and leaders in the IHS. Personal stories, illustrations of historical documents, and narratives of events that impacted the American Indian population are highlighted throughout the book. Overall, the authors portrayed the IHS in a positive light, pointing out that its attempt to elevate the health-care and medical services to the highest level possible (at least comparable to that of the US population) was a positive and successful achievement.

As a historical document, the book provides a one-sided view of the challenges and opportunities of the federal program charged with the responsibility of providing health-care services to American Indians. As a coffee-table book, this document is colorful, entertaining, and quite interesting. The book presents significant events over the years and reports on successful goals reached by the government. Thoroughly researched, the book leaves little information behind, save that regarding the contributions of American Indian peoples.

*Caring and Curing* is a handsomely packaged book that is educational and entertaining. This book is a must-have for individuals interested in American Indians and their ongoing relationship with the federal IHS.

*Felicia Schanche Hodge*

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**Conversations with Sherman Alexie.** Edited by Nancy Peterson. Jackson: University Press of Mississippi, 2009. 224 pages. \$50.00 cloth; \$22.00 paper.

With an impressive career spanning nearly twenty years, Sherman Alexie (Coeur d'Alene/Spokane) has published twenty books in a variety of genres (poetry, short fiction, novel, and screenplay); written the screenplays for two