ment of a "Lem Smith" who won a *Joplin Globe* shoveling prize in 1907 for "filling 303 cans . . . during an eight-hour shift" (138). In this example, Roll displays his prodigious mastery of the sources: ninety years of the manuscript census (1850-1940), union records, state and national mining and labor reports, more than fifty newspapers and periodicals, medical records of the 1920s, and extant personal, government, and corporate records drawn from thirty-two repositories in ten states and the District of Columbia. His research is exemplary, and his thirty-seven pages of notes and a comprehensive bibliography will take the scholar or interested buff to an extraordinary collection of primary and secondary sources.

Throughout his well-written and selectively illustrated account of the men of the Tri-State District, Roll never loses his focus upon the distinctive character of these miners—working class, conservative, intensely insensitive, white men who became renowned strikebreakers during the turn-of-the-twentieth-century Western labor struggles. His account explains why and how these shovelers remained anti-union or sometimes indifferent to labor issues through most of the nineteenth and twentieth centuries. Unlike many mining labor historians, Roll focuses unapologetically upon *men*, who were persuaded that they could attain a living wage through hard work, were faithful to the concept of contract mining, and were self-confident and personally insensitive to the risks that they faced daily from personal injury, which invariably sapped their strength as they aged.

Over time, corporations came to dominate the mineral deposits and reduced the rates paid per can raised. In the teens federal and state agencies and investigators identified lead poisoning and the deadly dust as pervasive dangers, but union efforts in the district persistently failed. Even during the New Deal, Roll finds that individuals' self-interest and resistance to monitoring their health thwarted efforts to aid the men, in part because the companies often used medical "grade cards" to purge the sickening miners from their payrolls, but also because the "Blue Card" company union undermined the CIO and its industrial unions. This is an account that expands our understanding of the Tri-State District and its miners, and will maintain your interest until you discover in conclusion the miner's son who left the Tri-State district to become a baseball legend—Mickey Mantle—son of Mutt, who died of cancer just as his son reached the New York Yankees.

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Daniel Tubb. *Shifting Livelihoods: Gold Mining and Subsistence in the Chocó, Columbia*. Seattle: University of Washington Press, 2020; 250 pp., 16 b&w illus., 2 maps, 2 figs., notes, bib., ind., paper, $30. ISBN: 9780295747538

This book summarizes Dr. Tubb's anthropological field work from 2010 to 2017 in the Chocó region of western Colombia, where he visited and worked in artisanal and small gold mines. Jumbled together with his personal experiences are numerous digressions into local land ownership, Colombian economics, corruption, narcotraffic, small- and large-scale mining, and Marxist theory. The book lacks structure, is endlessly repetitive, violates all of the rules of good writing, and issues murky and sometimes contradictory conclusions.

The Spanish word *rebusque*, overused by the author, has in Colombia the meaning of "temporary short-term work," perhaps best translated as "gig," as in "gig economy"; i.e. temporary jobs, often outside the purview of labor and tax authorities. This type of livelihood is far from unique to Colombia: it is typical, and in many cases the norm, in many or most poorer countries around the world, where subsistence or market agriculture, small-scale retail sales and services, and artisanal mining (of gold, diamonds, colored gemstones, tin, coltan, etc.) provide income for rural folk to scrape by. Thus it describes the livelihoods of hundreds of millions—perhaps a billion—peo-

ple in Africa, South Asia, and Latin America, not just in Colombia's Chocó. One could readily conclude that the author had no inkling of this mode of life prior to his setting out from wealthy North America.

Nor does the author apparently have much understanding of the mining industry or the high-risk nature of mineral exploration and development, where only about one in a thousand prospects becomes a successful mine. It is not even clear if the author is for or against small-scale mining as a mode of economic survival for rural folk in a poor country. Tubb has clearly wandered into the weeds, far beyond anything in his ken. A reader wanting a coherent discussion of the issues inherent in small-scale gold mining should look elsewhere.

Fred Barnard and John Dreier
Golden, Colorado.

The headframe of the Pozo Mine at Nevadaville, Colorado. Placer mining began in Nevada Gulch, elevation 9,000 feet, during the earliest days of the gold rush of 1859, and it later became the site of some of the richest and deepest lode mines in "the Little Kingdom of Gilpin," as the county at the heart of early Colorado mining was known. (Editor's photo.)