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HERBERT H. LEHMAN AND HIS ERA

Allan Nevins. Scribners, $7.50

Nevins has caught in this comprehensive biography the essence of the ideal of public service always associated with Herbert Lehman. He makes us realize, too, how Lehman's era has extended from the time of booming cotton brokerage, high collars, and a leisurely, old-style New York City, to that of the Jewish Joint Distribution Committee, UNRRA, Franklin D. Roosevelt, and Senator Joseph McCarthy. In the fullness of this portrait of Lehman's personal, business, philanthropic and political life, the book is likely to remain a definite work for some time to come.