



Blacks, Carpetbaggers, and Scalawags: The Constitutional Conventions of Radical Reconstruction (Hardback)

By Richard L Hume, B Gough Jerry

Louisiana State University Press, United States, 2008. Hardback. Book Condition: New. 251 x 185 mm. Language: English . Brand New Book. After the Civil War, Congress required ten former Confederate states to rewrite their constitutions before they could be readmitted to the Union. An electorate composed of newly enfranchised former slaves, native southern whites (minus significant numbers of disenfranchised former Confederate officials), and a small contingent of carpetbaggers, or outside whites, sent delegates to ten constitutional conventions.

Derogatorily labeled black and tan by their detractors, these assemblies wrote constitutions and submitted them to Congress and to the voters in their respective states for approval. Blacks, Carpetbaggers, and Scalawags offers a quantitative study of these decisive but little-understood assemblies -- the first elected bodies in the United States to include a significant number of blacks. Richard L. Hume and Jerry B. Gough scoured manuscript census returns to determine the age, occupation, property holdings, literacy, and slaveholdings of 839 of the conventions 1,018 delegates. Carefully analyzing convention voting records on certain issues -- including race, suffrage, and government structure -- they correlate delegates voting patterns with their racial and socioeconomic status. The authors then assign a Republican support score to each delegate...



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