

## BOOK REVIEWS

*Before the Covered Wagon.* By PHILIP H. PARRISH. (Portland, Oregon: Metropolitan Press, 1931. Pp. 292. \$2.50.)

*Before the Covered Wagon* is a collection of historical tales of the Old Oregon Country. The author is an editorial writer on the staff of the *Portland Oregonian* in which paper many of the sketches originally appeared. He is a son of the late Randall Parrish, whose volume upon *The Great Plains* was favorably reviewed in an early number of this magazine.

The following descriptive note is drawn from the author's preface: "This history was written to vitalize early events in the Oregon country, out of justice to the adventurers of those times and to those who read them now. I kept in mind the romance, but all the time maintained a profound respect for truth. The chronicle first appeared serially in the *Sunday Oregonian*, after which there resulted a demand for it as a book, and in preparing the work for such publication the original copy was ruthlessly revised and corrected. I owe a great debt to the late Albert Hawkins, editorial writer on *The Oregonian*—a fine man and an admirable historian. His encouragement and the use of his extensive library on Pacific Northwest history contributed much towards this volume, and since his death his kindness has been continued by Mrs. Hawkins. I also thank Miss Nellie Pipes, librarian of the Oregon Historical Society, who went over the manuscript scrupulously prior to its final publication. . . ."

In the judgment of the reviewer, Mr. Parrish has succeeded admirably in giving life to the early history of the Pacific Northwest without doing injustice to facts as known and set forth by the more serious historians. The volume will prove of great value as an introduction and stimulus to the reading of original narratives and histories of the more formal type. The volume is most attractive in make-up and reflects credit upon a local publisher, the Metropolitan Press of Portland, Oregon.

CHARLES W. SMITH

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*Seattle Memories.* By EDITH SANDERSON REDFIELD. (Boston: Lothrop, 1930. Pp. 78. \$2.00.)

The author of this book came to Seattle in 1869 and the memories narrated in this volume date from that year. The recollections of notable personages and events are told in a quiet and unpre-

tentious manner. Mrs. Redfield is an early graduate of the University of Washington. She is the author of a volume of *Verses* published in 1907 containing several poems of local interest. The present work is illustrated and well printed and bound. Copies can be obtained by writing to Mrs. Redfield at 1220 Boren Avenue, Seattle, Washington.

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*Early Voyages of the Pacific; a Few Notes on the Days of Iron Men and Wooden Ships.* Compiled by Archie W. Shiels. (Bellingham, Washington: Privately printed, 1930. Pp. 61.)

Attention is here called to a privately issued book that has not been intended for sale or general distribution. The author, Mr. Archie W. Shiels, disclaims any attempt at writing history. He has, however, for his own pleasure and that of his personal friends revealed some of the "highlights" of the early voyages to the Pacific Northwest. The little volume will serve as an excellent appetizer to more pretentious works. It is attractively printed and well bound and will be highly prized by those who may succeed in securing copies.

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*A History of the Pacific Northwest.* By GEORGE W. FULLER. (New York: Alfred A. Knopf, 1931. Pp. 398. \$5.00.)

This is one of the most important books recently appearing in the field of Pacific Northwestern History. The author has been for twenty years Librarian of the Spokane Public Library. That capital of the "Inland Empire" is the center around which the book is written. Mr. Fuller is the author of a three-volume work called *The Inland Empire*, a subscription work which was out-of-print on the day of publication in 1928. That success prompted the work on a volume with an enlarged title.

There is much of new material in the book and it will prove useful. There is a distinct value in having the historical perspective approach adjustment by a book of this kind. However, it is only an approach. The achievements of the coast settlements and industries are scantily treated in comparison with the greater attention given to the communities of the "Inland Empire." It may be that a more appropriate title for this new book could have been chosen. The lack of balance under the present title may be quickly tested by reference to the index where a search will be in vain to find any reference to such coast centers as Portland, Tacoma, Olympia or Tum-