

*Reminiscences of the West Coast of Vancouver Island.* By REV. CHARLES MOSER, O.S.B. 1926. (Victoria: Acme Press. Pp. 193.)

In 1900 the Rev. A. J. Brabant, a pioneer missionary of the Roman Catholic Church, published his reminiscences, dealing with the principal events of his twenty-five years, 1874-1899, amongst the Indians of the west coast of Vancouver Island. The body of this volume is a reprint of that book, which has long been quite unobtainable. Father Brabant's successor, the Rev. Charles Moser, has added some sixty or seventy pages, including the diaries of the Rev. J. N. Lemmens and the Rev. Joseph Nicolaye, from August, 1883, to March, 1886, with an account of the work of the missions and of important incidents in the early days of the region.

Though written primarily to stimulate interest in the missions, the volume is well worthy of a place in the library of the historian. Here and there scattered through the diaries the reader catches glimpses of the primitive conditions on the west coast, the dangers that faced the pioneer missionaries and traders, and the flitting movements of the earliest sealing schooners that led the way to pelagic sealing. Chapter IX contains an accurate summary of the story of historic Nootka, with lengthy quotations from the journals of Crespa and Peña and a concise statement of the facts of the Nootka trouble. A few errors, mostly typographical, have crept into the work; for example, "1776" on page 146 is manifestly a misprint for "1876." The book contains about twenty-four illustrations principally of present day views in and around the various missions.\*

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\*This review was written for the *Canadian Historical Review* by Judge Howay, who has kindly furnished a copy for simultaneous publication in the *Washington Historical Quarterly*.—Error.

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*Institute of Pacific Relations.* Proceedings of the Hawaii session, June 30-July 14, 1925, including its history, organization, proceedings, discussions, and addresses. (Honolulu: The Institute, 1925. Pp. 210.)

This book is a record of the proceedings of the Honolulu session of the Institute of Pacific Relations. The idea of such an institute was at first that of holding a Y.M.C.A. conference dealing primarily with the work and problems of that organization. The next step was to hold, under the auspices of the Young Men's Christian Association, a conference which should concern

itself with the wide range of Pacific problems and which should endeavor to find solutions for them in which the Christian spirit should prevail. In the final stage, plans looked forward to the Institute of Pacific Relations as a self-governing and a self-directing body, concerned with promoting the best relations with Pacific peoples, to avoid misunderstanding and conflicts, and to promote friendship and cooperation. The outcome of these plans was the conference described in the book under review.

A general calling committee which met at Atlantic City in September, 1924, reached the conclusions that the objective of the conference should be educational; that the program should be built and developed out of definite Pacific problems on which men are confused and in terms of which action must be taken; that the attendants should be a small, select group of people of influence in forming public opinion; that the procedure should be an educational process including addresses and forums, but making the central feature round tables in which attendants should study simultaneously the various phases of the same problems, with experts participating, and under the leadership of able chairmen; that the statement prepared by the Hawaiian group defining the scope and plans of the conference should be formally approved in general outline; and that the central executive committee should consist of a certain number of designated persons.

The statement issued by the Hawaiian group declared the Pacific to be no longer one of the world's great barriers but a highway of travel and commerce, and the regions thereof to be in almost instantaneous communication with the world by cable and wireless. Said the group, "the ancient prejudices and hatreds which have become historic on the continents of the old world are unknown across the Pacific. We have an almost clean sheet on which to write a page of the world's history." But the present situation was represented as one of prejudice, with selfishness and racial antipathy threatening on every hand.

The objective of the conference should be to secure accurate information. The spirit of the conference should be that of entire frankness in discussion. The scope of the conference was to be inter-Pacific. With these plans and purposes in mind the institute met at the appointed time and place.

The institute was conducted in the form of public meetings where addresses and papers were delivered; forums, where there were organized discussions; and round tables, where discussion followed the spirit of its members. Immigration from practically

every standpoint was discussed. Questions of race relations and of racial superiority, the treatment of resident aliens, standards of living in Pacific countries, the problem of the missionary, extra-territoriality, treaties of the Pacific and other special topics were frankly and fully discussed. Moreover, the point of view of every Pacific region was given by a national of that region. The Canadian, Australian, Chinese, Hawaiian, Japanese, Korean, Philippine, New Zealand, and American views were discussed. A reading of these statements impressed the reviewer that they are essentially generalizations and expressions of opinion, and in some cases merely the impressions of the person who made the statement. There is much of outlook, of sentiment, and of hope, but very little of fact and of scientific conclusion. This, doubtless, may be described as the hortatory part of the proceedings of the institute. In the study of immigration and other questions having to do with the Pacific, one is impressed with the frankness of approach and in the main with the soundness of the conclusions drawn. Even here, the hortatory element creeps in on occasion. The paper by Professor Wilson of Harvard, entitled "Law and Treaties in the Pacific," is a brief but accurate survey of a technical subject. The paper by Paul Scharrenberg under the caption, "The Interests of Labor in the Problems of the Pacific," is merely an argument for the exclusion of Orientals from the United States. He uses the terms "inalienable right," "sovereignty," "self government," "self preservation," "sovereign nation," and "domestic problem" in such a manner as to confuse the reviewer, who has for a number of years been a teacher of international law, coming into contact daily with such terms. Indeed, it is a question as to whether the old ideas of absolute sovereignty, jurisdiction, and self preservation are proper subjects for discussion at a forward-looking conference which looks to a world economy and a world order.

Mr. Chester Rowell set forth American sentiment on problems of the Pacific in sweeping generalizations. He described the different civilizations of the East and of the West and the manner in which they have been brought together, at least at the frontiers, by means of communication, but chiefly through business and the flow of capital. This contact, he pointed out, has created problems which should be settled in a spirit of justice and of cooperation. He said that after all it was essentially a problem of education.

A very interesting and instructive paper was given by Presi-

dent Arthur L. Dean of the University of Hawaii on "Assimilation in Hawaii." The publication is concluded by reports of the different round tables and forums.

It is natural that a book which purports to be a record of proceedings of any meeting or conference must embody the papers, addresses, etc., given at that conference, and the record is of value as the materials which it embraces are of value. It seems that every international conference must have two approaches toward the subjects which it has under discussion, one the hortatory, which holds up to the participants and those it expects to influence, a council of perfection, or of near-perfection; and the technological approach, which aims to dissect a problem in a scientific and objective way, and to discover the facts if they are discoverable at all. It is admitted that the hortatory approach is to some extent necessary to supply the engine power of interest and enthusiasm for extended scientific study, but it is also submitted that a conference of this kind will have increasing value as it decreases the hortatory element and increases emphasis upon the technological approach. It is not enough merely to state matters which are already common knowledge to one who reads newspapers and to make purely obvious conclusions from already known facts. To contribute, one must discover.

The Institute of Pacific Relations has made a splendid beginning. Its report must, of course, be an admixture of the two approaches which I have indicated. It is doubtless the policy of its leaders to eliminate in the future so many discussions of the obvious and to center attention on the unknown and the undiscovered.

C. E. MARTIN.

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*The Oregon Constitution and Proceedings and Debates of the Constitutional Convention of 1857.* Edited by CHARLES HENRY CAREY. (Portland: Oregon Historical Society, 1926. Pp. 543. \$5.00.)

The State of Oregon has waited seventy years for the appearance of this book. There is no doubt that the authentic materials here collected and edited would have been helpful to lawyers, judges, legislators and writers through all the years since the holding of the Constitutional Convention. In addition, there have been many outside of Oregon waiting for the book, especially librarians of universities and the larger public libraries. One of the safeguards of this Republic is the manifest effort of