

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

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-