

The author's judgment is clearly shown in his concluding words:—"There is plenty of room in China for all legitimate interests, and if Japan could bring herself to discard the methods she has borrowed from Prussia in favor of a policy of conciliation and genuine friendship with the Chinese people, she would eventually acquire in that quarter predominance which could never be seriously contested. It remains to be seen whether her rulers and statesmen have sufficient acumen to seize the unique opportunity thus presented to them instead of hazarding the fortunes of Dai Nippon in a militarist gamble more reckless even than that which caused the ruin of the German Empire."

The book is enhanced by a specially prepared set of charts folded in at the back.

EDMOND S. MEANY.

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*A History of the United States.* By EDWARD CHANNING. (New York: The Macmillan Company, 1921. Pp. 623).

This volume is the fifth in the widely known series by Professor Channing and covers the period of transition from 1815 to 1848. In some respects it differs from the earlier volumes in devoting larger space to social movements. Beginning with the westward movement it sketches the urban migration, the labor movement, abolition, religion, education and literature. These subjects occupy nearly half of the volume. Then follows the history of the period from Monroe to Jackson, and the last third of the volume treats of the western lands and settlements, and the Mexican War. As in all of Professor Channing's earlier volumes the material is sanely and seriously handled and his footnotes bring one in touch with practically all the worthwhile material in the field. The volumes in addition to being good history, well written, are the latest and best bibliography.

EDWARD McMAHON

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*Recent History of the United States.* By FREDERICK L. PAXSON. (Boston: Houghton Mifflin Company, 1921. Pp. 603. \$5.00).

This volume is additional evidence of the growing interest in the contemporary field of American history. Earlier evidence is found

in the publication of similar volumes by Beard, Haworth, and Lingley. Professor Paxson's volume suffers in comparison because of an unfortunate literary style—or rather absence of style which leads to the conclusion that it was compiled in haste for he has previously given evidence of a singularly clear pen. It is marred also by what appears to be an universal horror of having any opinions so that it reads more like an enlarged chronicle than a history. On the other hand it differs favorably from the other volumes by the inclusion of valuable material not readily found elsewhere. Examples selected at random are religious colleges, women's education, education of negroes, Johns Hopkins University, Mark Twain, historical writing, Buffalo Bill, baseball, social workers, military education, British labor manifests. Many others could be given. These would seem to insure the book a definite place in the field.

EDWARD MCMAHON

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*Seventy Years of Progress in Washington.* By EZRA MEEKER.  
(Seattle: The Author. 1921. Pp. 381. \$5.00.)

Mr. Meeker timed the publication of his book so it should appear on his ninety-first birthday, 29 December, 1921. Judson T. Jennings, Librarian of the Seattle Public Library, in praising the contents of the book says: "It is an amazing piece of work for a man of 91 years of age." Mr. Meeker is the best known pioneer of the Pacific Northwest. He has gathered here his reminiscences and his opinions. It is a remarkable compilation and will prove helpful to writers of the future.

As if the work of issuing such a book at such an advanced age were not enough, the author secured a copy of the rare pamphlet, "Washington Territory West of the Cascade Mountains" which he had published in 1870 and had it reproduced in facsimile to be inserted as an appendix in the larger work. Of course this adds much of historic value to the book.

All in all, the libraries, collectors and interested individuals throughout the Pacific Northwest will find Ezra Meeker's latest volume well worth while.

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*Down the Columbia.* By LEWIS R. FREEMAN. (New York: Dodd, Mead and Company. 1921. Pp. 383.)

While the author was travelling in many lands, finding adven-