

## BOOK REVIEWS

*The Aristocratic West.* By KATHARINE FULLERTON GEROULD.  
(New York: Harpers, 1925. Pp. 220. \$3.50.)

"The Aristocratic West" is a series of interpretive sketches of the West in general, including chapters on Salt Lake City, Oregon and Washington, New Mexico and Arizona, Reno, and San Francisco.

The first essay enlightens the reader as to the meaning of the term "Aristocratic West." To the author this is the Far West, the still romantic, very democratic, highly civilized West where "self respect, dignity," and generous consideration of the social and moral rights of others are to be found even in the common man.

In the essays which follow, Mormonism is thoroughly analyzed, the early jealousies of Tacoma, Seattle and Portland are well aired and their climate, scenery and future possibilities adequately discussed. The decaying civilizations of the Spanish and of the Pueblo Indian are made the outstanding features of New Mexico, Reno, sinister and sordid, is merely the haven of the divorceé, and San Francisco, the peer of New York City, represents all that is best in California history.

Mrs. Gerould is an entertaining, but not altogether convincing writer. Her very extravagant praise of what she is fond of, and her equally severe criticism of what she is disinterested in do not indicate a deep knowledge of her subject, but rather the superficial gleanings of the traveler which she admits herself to be.

ETHEL CHRISTOFFERS.

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*A History of Economic Progress in the United States.* By WALTER W. JENNINGS, Ph.D., Associate Professor of Economic History in the University of Kentucky. (New York: Thomas Y. Crowell Company, 1926. Pp. XVI 819, \$4.50.)

Economic history, says Professor Jennings, "is nothing more nor less than the explanation of the economic life of a people." As it is here treated it is more than a narrative of this life, for economic life is never isolated from the political, social, religious and racial factors. Moreover Professor Jennings lays emphasis throughout his handling of the material on the "Economic Progress" of the American people. The book is divided into five